それでも町は廻っている
Soredemo Machi ha Mawatteiru
通称"それ町"
6
石黒正数
Ishiguro Masakazu
ハリウッド
メイド
喫茶
シーサイド
YOUNG KING COMICS

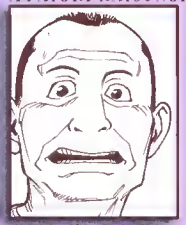
soredemo machi ha mawatte iru

and yet the town moves

presented by
masakazu ishiguro

MAJOR CHARACTERS

AYATORI KATSUNORI

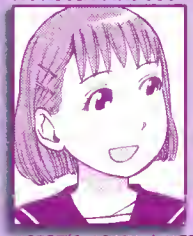


MAKOTO'S GRANDPA. HOTORI'S MOM'S DAD.

AYATORI YOSHIMI

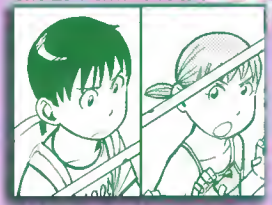
MAKOTO'S MOM. HOTORI'S MOM'S YOUNGER SISTER. HOTORI'S AUNT.

AYATORI MAKOTO



HOTORI'S COUSIN. A MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT. HER GRADES AREN'T TOO GOOD.

TAKERU AND YUKIKO



HOTORI'S LITTLE BROTHER AND SISTER. TAKERU IS SMART. YUKIKO ACTS BEFORE SHE THINKS.

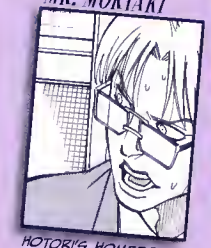
ARASHIYAMA HOTORI

THE MAIN CHARACTER. HER HAIR IS SHORTER, BUT SHE'S STILL THE SAME PERSON.

MU-CHAN'S GRANDPA

SEE "PHANTOM BOY" FROM VOLUME 6.

MR. MORIAKI



HOTORI'S HOMEROOM TEACHER. STUBBORN.

SANADA HIROYUKI

HOTORI'S CHILDHOOD FRIEND. SON OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD FISHMONGER.

KON FUTABA

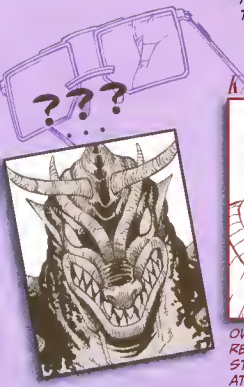
SHE'S ONE GRADE ABOVE HOTORI. MEMBER OF THE PING PONG CLUB.

HARIBARA HARUE

HOTORI'S FRIEND. MEMBER OF THE PING PONG CLUB.

TATSUNO TOSHIKO

HOTORI'S FRIEND. AND CO-WORKER.



KARUBE SHOUE

OWNS A NEARBY RAMEN RESTAURANT. OPENS A STALL BY THE STATION AT NIGHT.

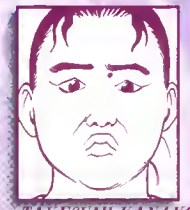
SUZUKI TAKAHIRO

SANADA'S FRIEND. MEMBER OF THE FILM CLUB.

ASAI KOUSUKE

SANADA'S FRIEND. HIS HOBBY IS WEIGHT LIFTING.

TAKESUMI KANAKO



IN THE SAME GRADE AS KON-SENPAI. CAPTAIN OF THE PING PONG CLUB. NICKNAME IS CAP.

TANBA RIN

ONE GRADE BELOW HOTORI. MEMBER OF THE FILM CLUB.

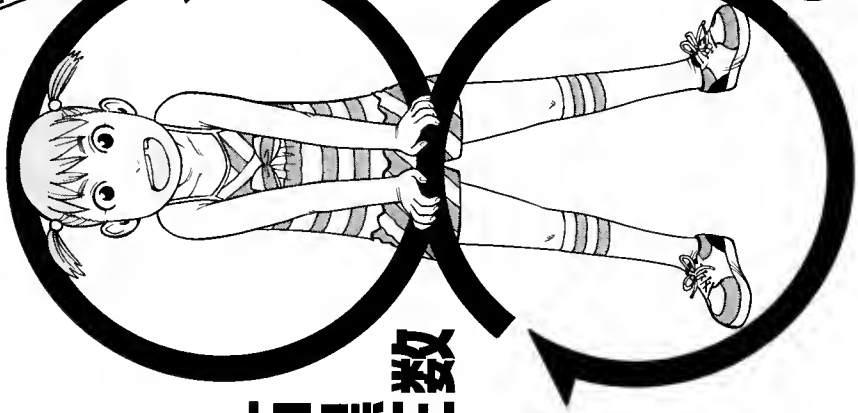
FUKUZAWA AKIRA

IN THE SAME GRADE AS HOTORI, BUT IN A DIFFERENT CLASS. MEMBER OF THE FILM CLUB.

AND YET, THE TOWN MOVES

それでも町は廻っている

通称"それ町"



YOUNG KING COMICS

石黒正数
ISHIGURO MASAKAZU

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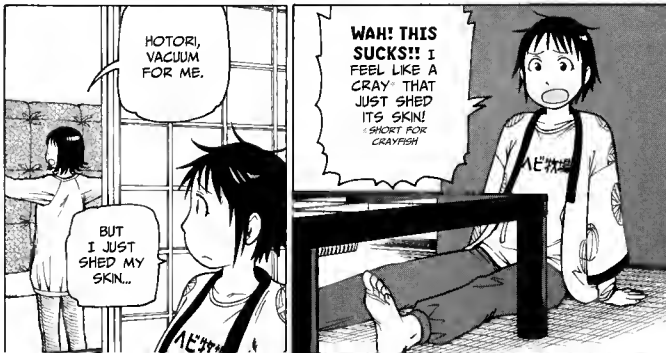
THIS STORY IS A WORK OF FICTION. NONE OF THE CHARACTERS, HAPPENINGS, ETC. ARE REAL.

CHAPTER 59

SMILE AWAY

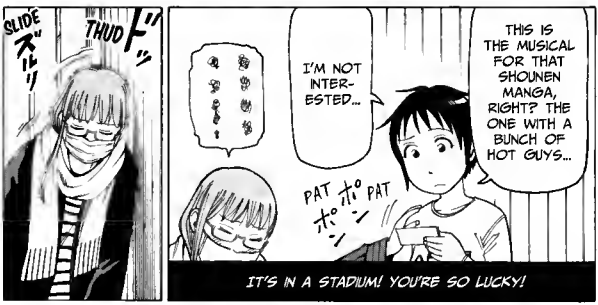
SHIRT: SNAKE FARM

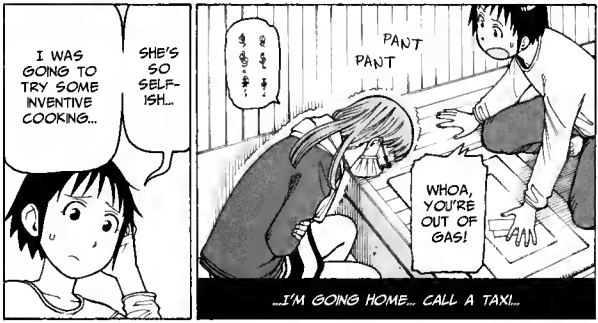


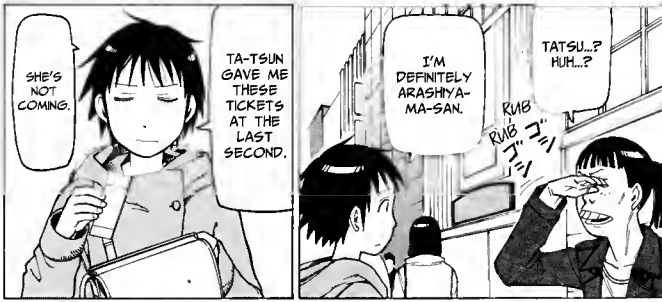
WHIRR
ズー
WHIRR
ズー
WHIRR
ズー
WHIRR
ズー
HMM?
ヘビ牧場
WHIRR...N
ウウィーン
THE VACUUM IS MAKING A FUNNY SOUND. ...GUESS IT'S DYING.
ヘビ牧場
カチ
WHEN ARE WE GOING TO BUY A VACUUM THAT DOESN'T LOSE POWER OVER TIME?!
HUH?

ヘビ牧場
YOU NEVER SHOW UP WITHOUT CALLING FIRST.
OH, TA-TSUN.
YOU SHOULD BE IN BED.
YOU GET SICK A LOT...
ALLER-GIES PLUS A COLD ?!
WHAT HAP-PENED TO YOUR VOICE? ALLER-GIES?
IT'S HOPELESS. I MEAN, YOU'RE BURNING UP.
OH... BUT...
ADDING CAPTIONS TO MAKE THEIR CONVERSATION UNDERSTAND-ABLE.
I HAVE TICKETS FOR A MUSICAL I'M DYING TO SEE!

WHAAT?!
I WANT YOU TO GO IN MY PLACE...
SOB!


SLIDE
THUD
THIS IS THE MUSICAL FOR THAT SHOUNEN MANGA, RIGHT? THE ONE WITH A BUNCH OF HOT GUYS...
I'M NOT INTER-ESTED...
PAT
PAT
IT'S IN A STADIUM! YOU'RE SO LUCKY!

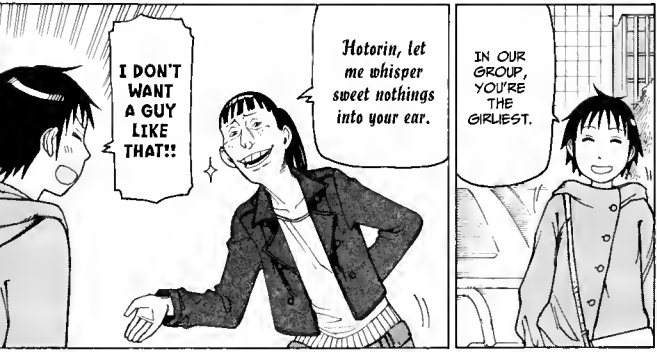

I WAS GOING TO TRY SOME INVENTIVE COOKING...
SHE'S SO SELF-ISH...
PANT
PANT
WHOA, YOU'RE OUT OF GAS!
...I'M GOING HOME... CALL A TAXI...



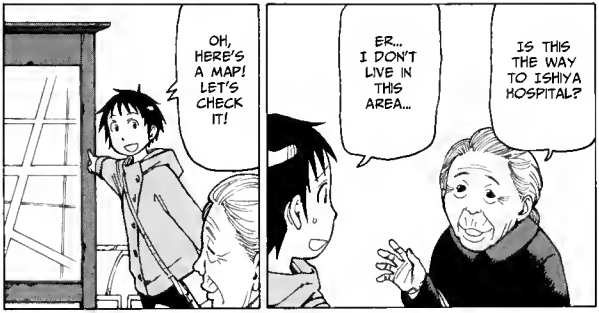
RUN, MOERUS! IS A JAPANESE CLASSIC SHORT STORY BY OSAMU DAZAI.

SHE CAME ALL THE WAY TO MY HOUSE IN THAT CONDITION. I WAS GETTING "RUN, MOERUS" VIBES.
WOULDN'T THAT BE... A COLD?
COUGH COUGH
ゴボゴボ
MY ALLERGIES ARE SO BAD THAT MY BODY ACHES AND I CAN'T STOP COUGHING...
AWW... SO SHE CAUGHT A COLD. SHE ALWAYS GETS SICK WHEN THE SEASONS CHANGE...

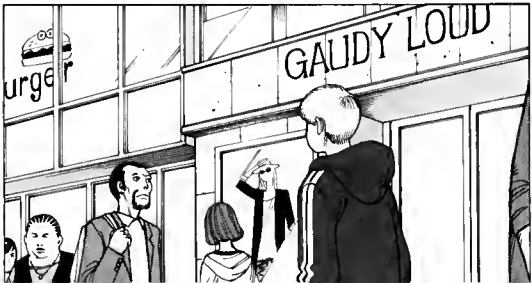
THE MUSICAL DOESN'T START UNTIL THIS EVENING, RIGHT? THIS IS TOO EARLY.
WE WERE GOING TO DO SOME SHOPPING AND GRAB DINNER FIRST...
WELL, THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO BE LIKE A PRACTICE DATE.

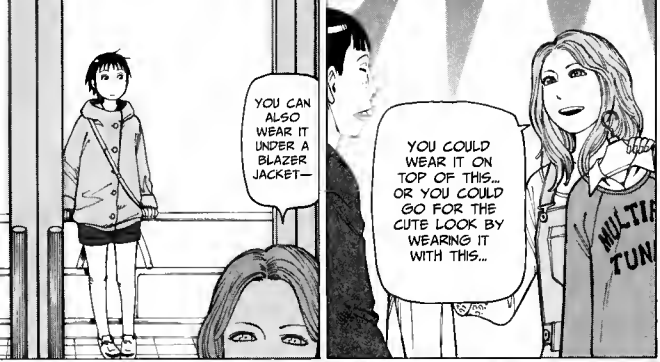

IN OUR GROUP, YOU'RE THE GIRLIEST.
Hotorin, let me whisper sweet nothings into your ear.
I DON'T WANT A GUY LIKE THAT!!

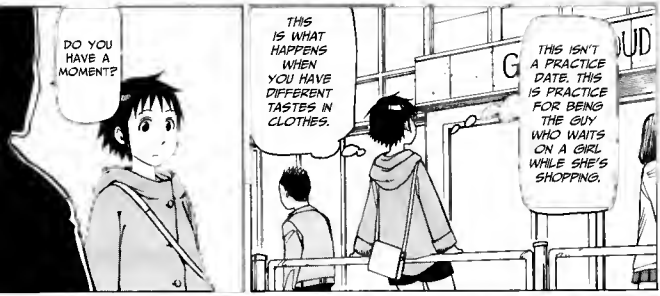
WELL... I PROBABLY DO NEED TO GET USED TO CROWDS.
WHO KNOWS WHEN MY CHANCE WILL COME?
UMM, EXCUSE ME.


OH, HERE'S A MAP! LET'S CHECK IT!
ER... I DON'T LIVE IN THIS AREA...
IS THIS THE WAY TO ISHIYA HOSPITAL?

I ALWAYS SEEM TO ATTRACT OLD PEOPLE... I WONDER WHY.
PROBABLY BECAUSE YOU LOOK HARMLESS.
GO STRAIGHT, THEN TURN RIGHT AT THE NEXT STOPLIGHT.
OH... THANK YOU.


GAUDY LOUD

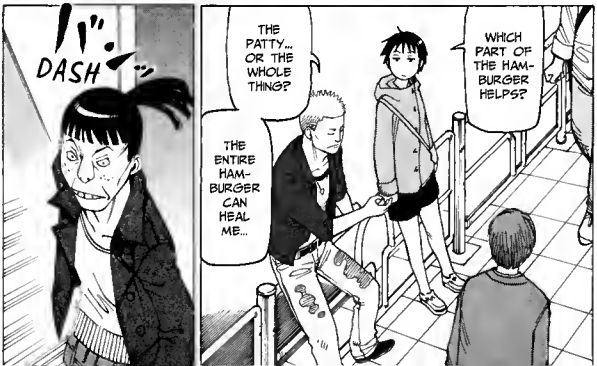

YOU CAN ALSO WEAR IT UNDER A BLAZER JACKET—
YOU COULD WEAR IT ON TOP OF THIS... OR YOU COULD GO FOR THE CUTE LOOK BY WEARING IT WITH THIS...


DO YOU HAVE A MOMENT?
THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU HAVE DIFFERENT TASTES IN CLOTHES.
THIS ISN'T A PRACTICE DATE. THIS IS PRACTICE FOR BEING THE GUY WHO WAITS ON A GIRL WHILE SHE'S SHOPPING.

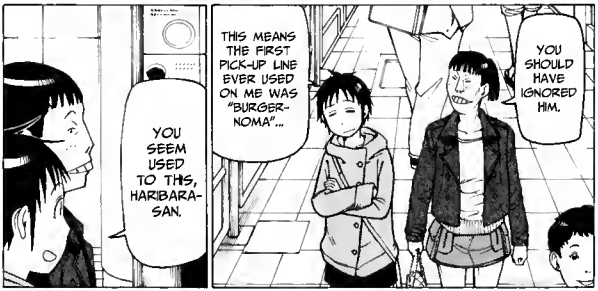
HUH ...?
I HAVE THIS DISEASE WHERE I HAVE TO EAT HAMBURGERS OR I'LL DIE.
STAGGER
ヨロッ
PANT... SO...

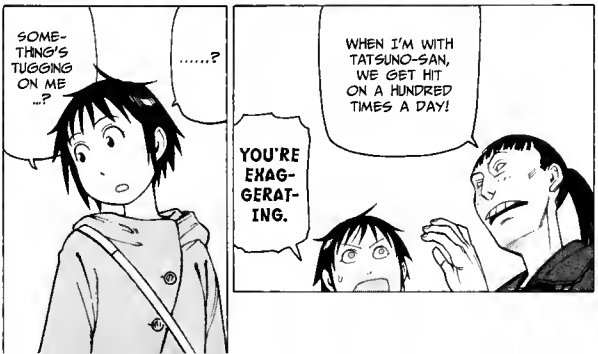
Flaburger
COULD YOU HELP ME OVER TO THAT RESTAU-RANT?
WHAT'S THE DISEASE CALLED?
ER.

UHHHHH...
BURGER-NOMA.


WHICH PART OF THE HAM-BURGER HELPS?
THE PATTY... OR THE WHOLE THING?
THE ENTIRE HAM-BURGER CAN HEAL ME...
DASH

AWW
DASH
ARASHI-YAMA-SAN, HE WAS HITTING ON YOU!
OH, YOU THINK SO, TOO?


YOU SEEM USED TO THIS, HARIBARA-SAN.
THIS MEANS THE FIRST PICK-UP LINE EVER USED ON ME WAS "BURGER-NOMA"...
YOU SHOULD HAVE IGNORED HIM.


SOME-THING'S TUGGING ON ME ...?
.....?
YOU'RE EXAG-GERAT-ING.
WHEN I'M WITH TATSUNO-SAN, WE GET HIT ON A HUNDRED TIMES A DAY!

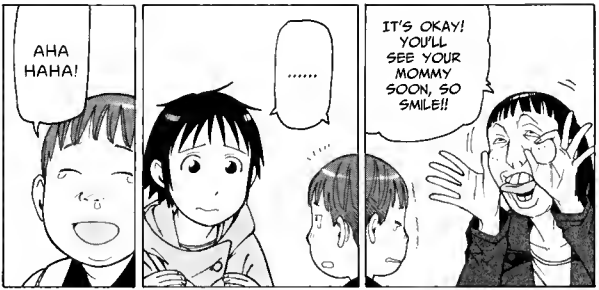
I DON'T KNOW HIM! HE JUST POPPED UP!
WHO IS THIS BOY? DID YOU PICK HIM UP SOME-WHERE?!

WHAAAT?!

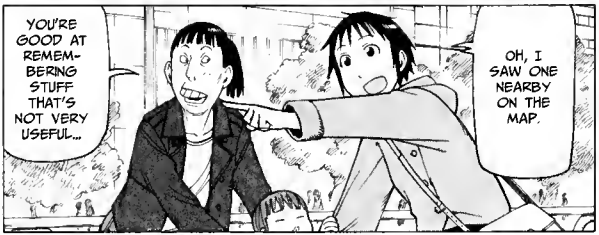
YOU MUST HAVE BEEN A TROUBLE-MAKER IN YOUR PREVIOUS LIFE...
TROUBLE HAS A WAY OF FINDING YOU...
MAYBE HE'S LOST...

WERE YOU WITH YOUR MOMMY TODAY?!
MO... SOB...
UH OH, HE'S GONNA CRY!

LITTLE BOY! WHERE DO YOU LIVE?
.....

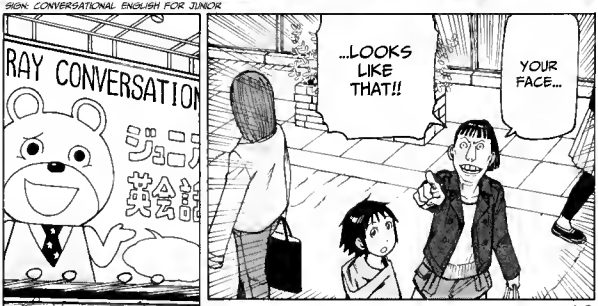


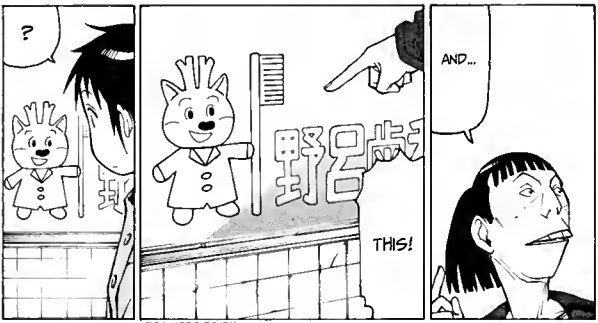
*EXCEPT FOR HOTORI



SIGN: BASHIMAE POLICE BOX

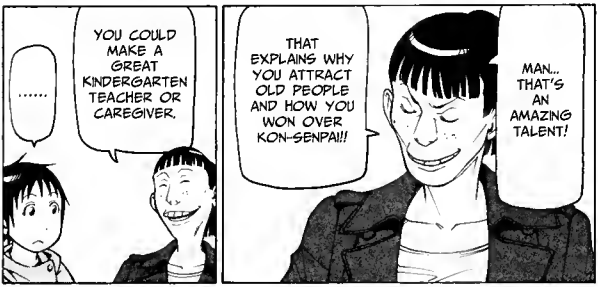
SIGN: CONVERSATIONAL ENGLISH FOR JUNIOR





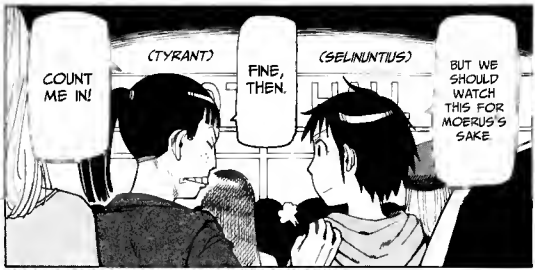
SIGN: NORO DENTAL

...IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MAKE ME HAPPY?
YOUR FACE IS SIMILAR TO THE FACES IN ILLUSTRATIONS FOR KIDS!
THAT BOY LAUGHED WHEN HE LOOKED AT YOU!

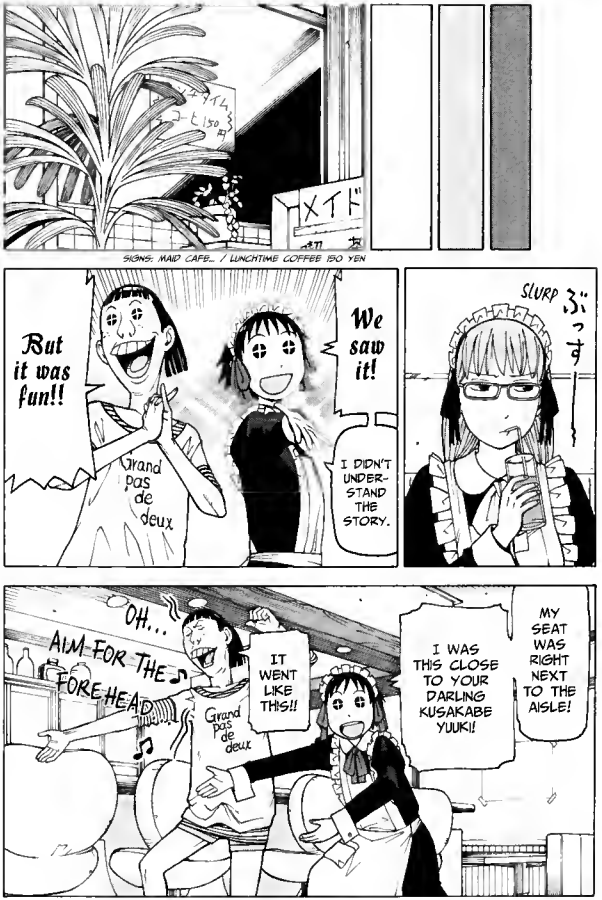

.....
YOU COULD MAKE A GREAT KINDERGARTEN TEACHER OR CAREGIVER.
THAT EXPLAINS WHY YOU ATTRACT OLD PEOPLE AND HOW YOU WON OVER KON-SENPAI!!
MAN... THAT'S AN AMAZING TALENT!

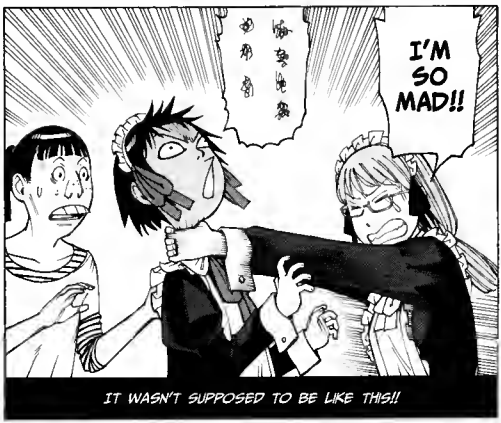
POSTER: MUSICAL TAIMA SENSEN: NOBLE REAPER ARC

..WHY AM I EVEN HERE?!
I'VE NEVER READ THE STORY IT'S BASED ON.
NAH, TATSUNO-SAN FORCED ME TO COME.
HUH?! DIDN'T YOU WANT TO WATCH THIS?
LET'S JUST LEAVE AND TELL TATSUNO-SAN THAT WE WATCHED IT.

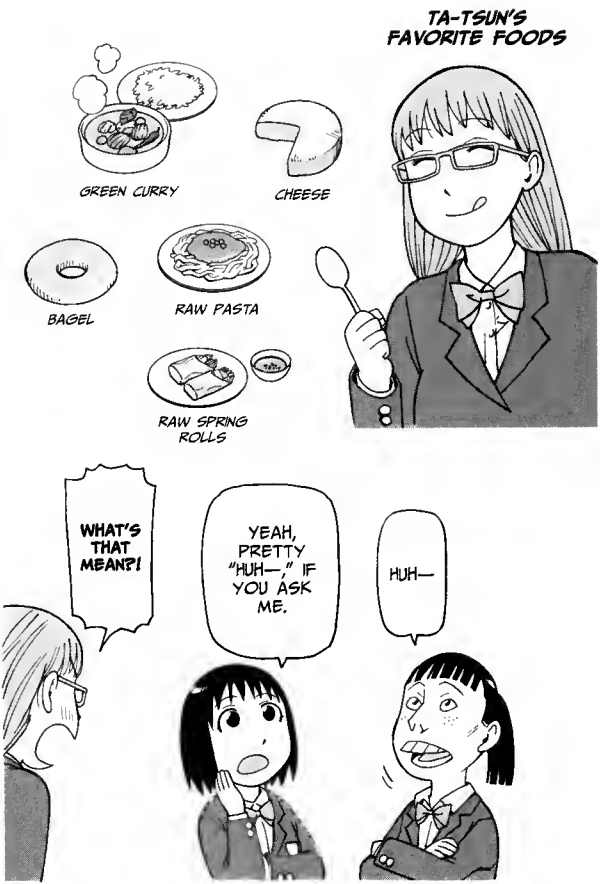


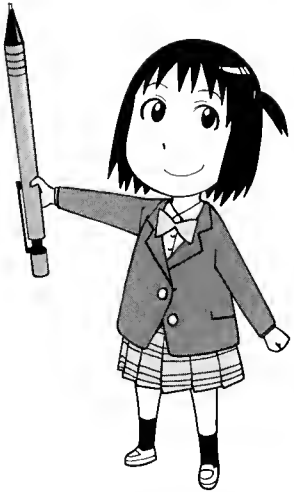
SELINUNTIUS AND THE TYRANT KING ARE CHARACTERS IN RUN, MOERUS!


SIGNS: MAID CAFE... / LUNCHTIME COFFEE 150 YEN
メイド
We saw it!
But it was fun!!
Grand pas de deux
I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND THE STORY.
SLURP
ぶっす
MY SEAT WAS RIGHT NEXT TO THE AISLE!
I WAS THIS CLOSE TO YOUR DARLING KUSAKABE YUUKI!
IT WENT LIKE THIS!!
OH...
AIM FOR THE FOREHEAD
Grand pas de deux



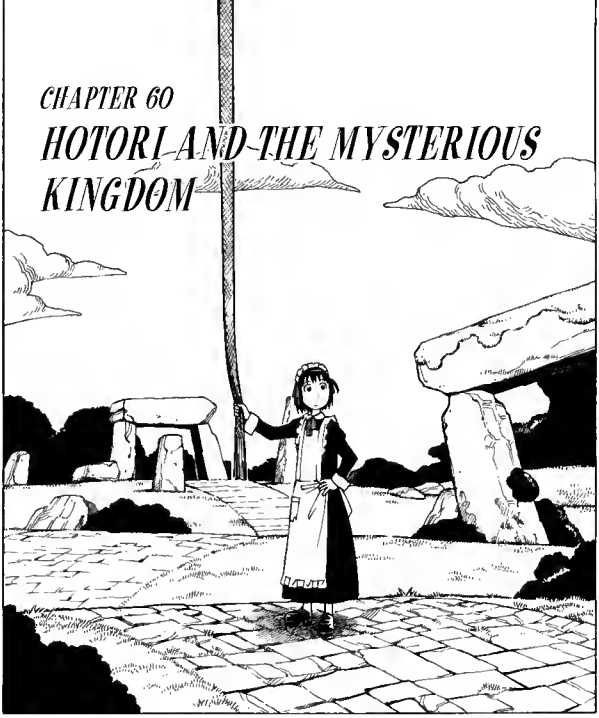
CHAPTER 59 / END


TA-TSUN'S FAVORITE FOODS
GREEN CURRY
CHEESE
BAGEL
RAW PASTA
RAW SPRING ROLLS
HUH—
YEAH, PRETTY "HUH—," IF YOU ASK ME.
WHAT'S THAT MEAN?!



.....? WHAT WAS I DOING?
WAS I GOING UP OR DOWN?
WHICH WAY...
GUESS I'LL GO DOWN
IT'S BRIGHT DOWN THERE.

CHAPTER 60
HOTORI AND THE MYSTERIOUS KINGDOM



...THANK YOU.
SO... WHERE AM I?
RUSTLE
I've waited for ten years.
RUSTLE
You have finally come.
THUMP
THUMP
THREE... HISTO-RIES..?
You will be solving three histories for us.
You've forgotten? Moron!
DON'T PLAY DUMB.
HMM?
YOU CAN TALK ?!
I MEANT TO WRITE "MYSTERIES."
×Histories
↓
○mysteries

YOU'RE A TANUKI, BUT YOUR NAME IS FOX?
ISN'T THAT A LITTLE ODD?

I AM A TANUKI WHO WAS TASKED TO BRING A SKILLED DETECTIVE TO KING JOSEPHINE.
MY NAME IS FOX.

FOX

THIS IS HOW YOU WRITE MY NAME.

MORON!! MY NAME IS SPELLED DIFFER-ENTLY FROM THE ANIMAL FOX!!

CHEER UP.
UM... WELL...
FOX

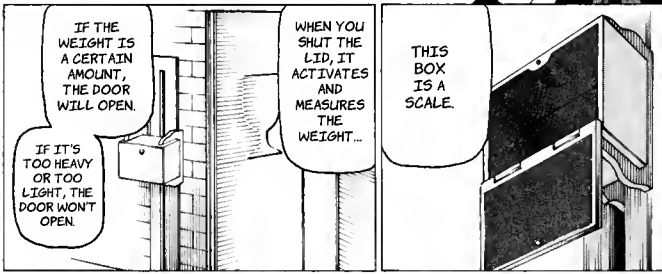
THAT'S THE ANIMAL.
THAT'S HOW YOU SPELL IT.

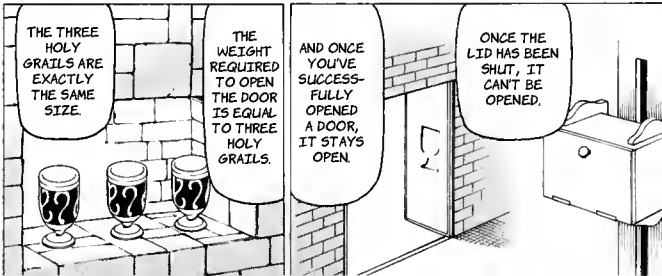
ANYWAY, I HEARD YOU WERE LOOKING FOR A SKILLED DETECTIVE.
I CAN HELP YOU WITH ANYTHING FROM MURDERS TO MISSING PERSONS.
WE NEED YOU TO FIND A JEWEL.
OH, SO IT'S A MISSING ITEM.

FIRST, WE WILL TEST YOUR SKILLS.
I WILL ONLY TAKE YOU TO SEE KING JOSEPHINE IF YOU PASS THE TEST.
WE DON"T NEED ANY FOOLS.
I'M GONNA PASS THIS TEST!

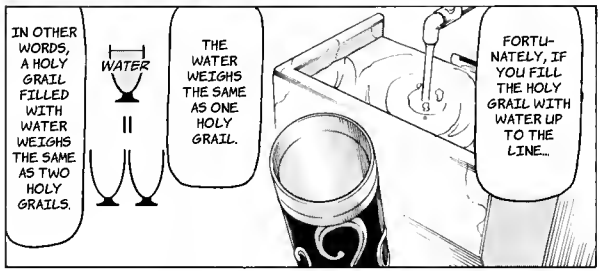
HERE IS THE FIRST MYS-TERY.
WE HAVE ARRIVED AT FORT HOLY GRAIL.
STEP INSIDE.

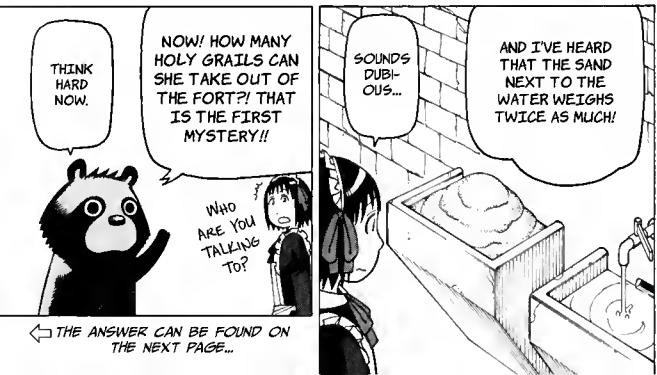
ALLOW ME TO EXPLAIN.


IF THE WEIGHT IS A CERTAIN AMOUNT, THE DOOR WILL OPEN.
IF IT'S TOO HEAVY OR TOO LIGHT, THE DOOR WON'T OPEN.
WHEN YOU SHUT THE LID, IT ACTIVATES AND MEASURES THE WEIGHT...
THIS BOX IS A SCALE.

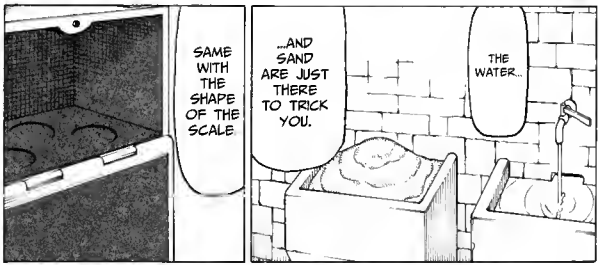

THE THREE HOLY GRAILS ARE EXACTLY THE SAME SIZE.
THE WEIGHT REQUIRED TO OPEN THE DOOR IS EQUAL TO THREE HOLY GRAILS.
AND ONCE YOU'VE SUCCESS-FULLY OPENED A DOOR, IT STAYS OPEN.
ONCE THE LID HAS BEEN SHUT, IT CAN'T BE OPENED.

SO THESE ARE THE HOLY GRAILS.
BUT!
THE HOLY GRAILS CAN BE EXCHANGED FOR MONEY LATER!


FORTUNATELY, IF YOU FILL THE HOLY GRAIL WITH WATER UP TO THE LINE...
THE WATER WEIGHS THE SAME AS ONE HOLY GRAIL.
WATER
=
IN OTHER WORDS, A HOLY GRAIL FILLED WITH WATER WEIGHS THE SAME AS TWO HOLY GRAILS.


AND I'VE HEARD THAT THE SAND NEXT TO THE WATER WEIGHS TWICE AS MUCH!
SOUNDS DUBIOUS...
NOW! HOW MANY HOLY GRAILS CAN SHE TAKE OUT OF THE FORT?! THAT IS THE FIRST MYSTERY!!
THINK HARD NOW.
WHO ARE YOU TALKING TO?
⇦ THE ANSWER CAN BE FOUND ON THE NEXT PAGE...

I CAN TAKE THREE HOLY GRAILS WITH ME.
IT'S EASY, MORON.
DON'T MOCK ME.


SAME WITH THE SHAPE OF THE SCALE
...AND SAND ARE JUST THERE TO TRICK YOU.
THE WATER...

CLICK
...AND SHUT THE LID...
...YOU CAN PUT THE THREE HOLY GRAILS ON TOP OF IT...
IF THE BOX IS A SCALE...

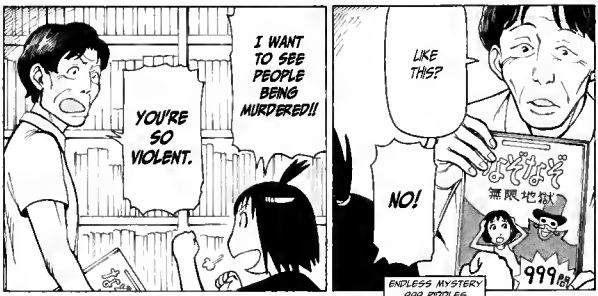
ドゴン
THUMP
WHOOSH
ガコッ
AND SINCE THE DOOR STAYS OPEN...
...YOU KEEP THE CUPS.
AMAZING! THAT'S CORRECT!!
YOU SHOW PROMISE.
THAT WAS CHILD'S PLAY. HA HA HA HA!
HA HA HA!

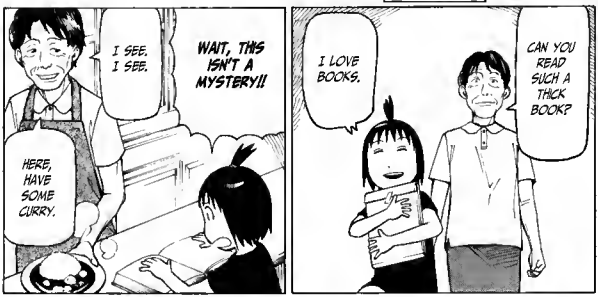
BOX: MIDDLE SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS

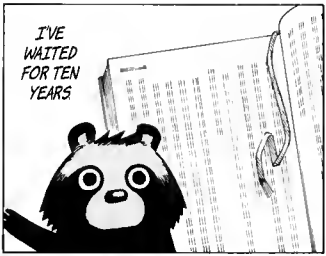
I KEEP UNCOVERING STUFF THAT BRINGS BACK MEMORIES, SO I'M NOT MAKING ANY PROGRESS...
I WAS CLEANING MY ROOM, BUT I FELL ASLEEP...
中学

BOOK: NINE GRADE SCHOOL GRADUATION ALBUM

I WANT MYSTERY! RIDDLES TO SOLVE!!
AWARD-WINNING BOOK!! TV SERIES ANNOUNCED!!
MOVIE IN THE WORKS
DORIS AND THE MYSTERIOUS KINGDOM
OHH... THIS BOOK...
SUMMER HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT


I WANT TO SEE PEOPLE BEING MURDERED!!
YOU'RE SO VIOLENT.
LIKE THIS?
NO!
ENDLESS MYSTERY 999 RIDDLES


I SEE, I SEE.
WAIT, THIS ISN'T A MYSTERY!!
HERE, HAVE SOME CURRY.
I LOVE BOOKS.
CAN YOU READ SUCH A THICK BOOK?


I'VE WAITED FOR TEN YEARS

I STOPPED READING THIS HALFWAY...

...GUESS I KEPT HIM WAITING A LONG TIME...

指定図書

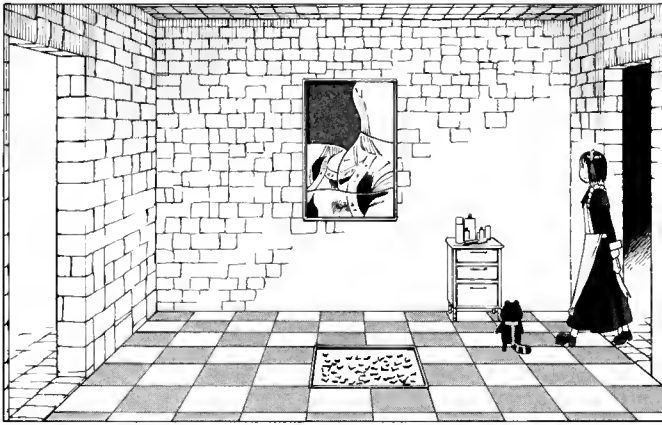
ZZZ
ZZZZZ

I'M BACK.
I AM GLAD TO SEE YOU.
WHILE YOU WERE GONE, I SOLD THE HOLY GRAILS...
...FOR A CONSID-ERABLE SUM.
FOX
AMAZING! ONE 889 YEN COIN, ONE 513 YEN COIN, AND ONE 326 YEN COIN.
TWO 152 YEN COINS AND TWO 77 YEN COINS...
FOR A TOTAL OF 2,186 YEN!!
WHAT A PAIN!!
THE CURRENCY HERE IS HORRIBLE! I WOULD HATE TO GO SHOPPING HERE!
店
STORE

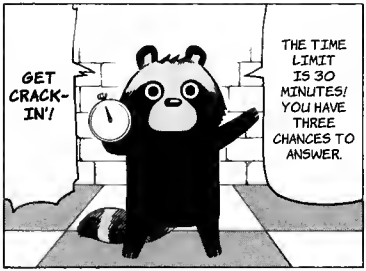
AW, MAN.. THIS TIME, IT'S A MATH PROBLEM...
USE THIS MONEY TO BUY ONE 5 YEN MANJU!
FOX
THERE'S A STORE.
店
ギク
TWITCH
NO GOOD.
MAN... THIS IS SUCH A PAIN...
UMMM... LET'S SEE. 77 + 77, THEN SUB-TRACT 152—
GIVE ME THAT SIGN AND A PEN.
EXCUSE ME.
YES?
...I THINK I'VE SOLVED IT.

I HAVE ONE 513 YEN COIN, TWO 152 YEN COINS, AND ONE 77 YEN COIN FOR A TOTAL OF 894 YEN, SO I SHOULD RECEIVE ONE 889 YEN COIN IN CHANGE, RIGHT?
WHY ARE YOU MAKING THIS SO HARD?! GIVE ME ONE 77 YEN COIN.
I WOULD LIKE ONE 5 YEN MANJU PLEASE.
SURE.
I SEE... I SHOULD HAVE ASKED FIRST INSTEAD OF LETTING THE FUNKY COINS GET TO ME... SO I FAILED THE SECOND QUESTION...?
MUNCH MUNCH
もぐもぐ
もぐもぐ
MUNCH MUNCH
THERE WERE MORE DENOMINATIONS?!!
ガーン
SHOCK
HERE'S YOUR CHANGE, 72 YEN.
DON'T PLAY DUMB !!
HMM?
HUH? THAT WASN'T A MYSTERY? YOU WERE JUST HUNGRY?!
I'M FULL NOW. SO LET'S HEAD TO THE SECOND MYSTERY.

THIS WAY.
YOU MUST FACE THE KING'S POR-TRAIT.
NOW. HERE IS THE SECOND MYSTERY.



YOU MUST SEARCH THE MANSION FOR CLUES TO FIND WHAT IS NEEDED TO COMPLETE THE PORTRAIT.
THIS PORTRAIT IS MISSING ONE PART.

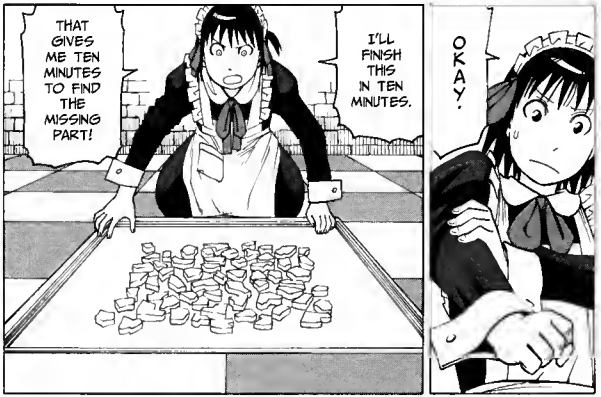


BOTTLES: HAIR GROWTH, MOUTH RINSE / TUBE: GLUE

STARE
じー
HERE.
LET ME SEE.
INCORRECT!
YOU HAVE 29 MINUTES AND 2 CHANCES REMAINING.
WHAAA?
ポイ
TOSS
HUH?! ANOTHER ONE!

TUG
HERE, TOO!
CLANG
HERE, TOO?!
THIS WON'T WORK.
WHAT?! THERE ARE A BUNCH OF PIECES THAT COULD BE THE FINAL PART?!
I HAVE TO COM-PLETE THE PUZZLE FIRST...
..SO I CAN DETERMINE THE SHAPE OF THE MISSING PIECE!

FOX, HOW MANY MINUTES ARE LEFT?!
YOU HAVE 23 MINUTES REMAIN-ING.


I'LL FINISH THIS IN TEN MINUTES.
OKAY.
THAT GIVES ME TEN MINUTES TO FIND THE MISSING PART!

パチッ CLICK
パチッ CLICK

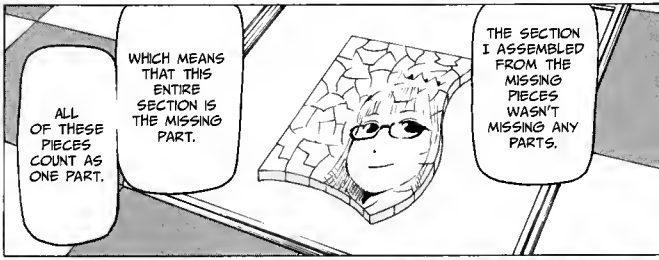
WAIT, I WASN'T SUPPOSED TO FINISH!
THERE'S SUPPOSED TO BE A MISSING PART!
CLICK
バチッ
FIN-ISHED!

.....
YOU HAVE 5 MINUTES REMAINING

COM-PLETE THE POR-TRAIT...
ONE PART...
MISSING ONE PART?
I NEED TO THINK...
HE'S STILL COUNTING DOWN, WHICH MEANS I HAVEN'T MADE THREE MISTAKES...

GRIN
ニヤリ
!

YOU HAVE 2 MINUTES REMAINING.


ALL OF THESE PIECES COUNT AS ONE PART.
WHICH MEANS THAT THIS ENTIRE SECTION IS THE MISSING PART.
THE SECTION I ASSEMBLED FROM THE MISSING PIECES WASN'T MISSING ANY PARTS.

WITH THIS!!

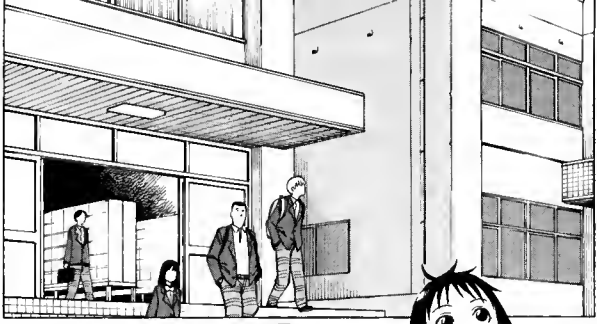
SO IF MY TASK WAS FIND WHAT I NEEDED TO COMPLETE THE PORTRAIT...
..I NEED TO COMBINE THE PUZZLE PIECES I ASSEMBLED INTO ONE PART.

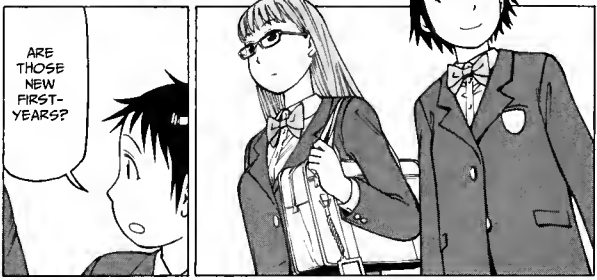
COR-
RECT!
接着剤
接着剤
接着剤
TUBE: GLUE (WOOD, CLOTH, CERAMIC)
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
ピピピ
HA
HA HA!
SO IT'S
FINALLY
THE
KING'S
TURN!
NEXT YOU
WILL MEET
THE KING FOR
THE THIRD
MYSTERY!!
YOU'RE
AMAZING!
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
ピピピ
LOOKS
LIKE I'M
OUT OF
TIME.
S-
SORRY,
FOX.
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
ピピピピピ
WHAT'S
THAT
SOUND?!
.....?

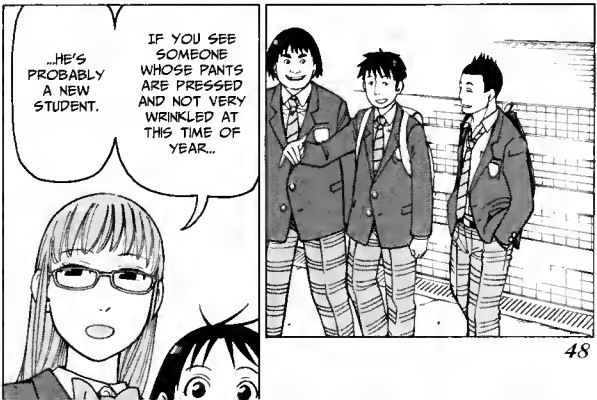
CHAPTER 60 / END

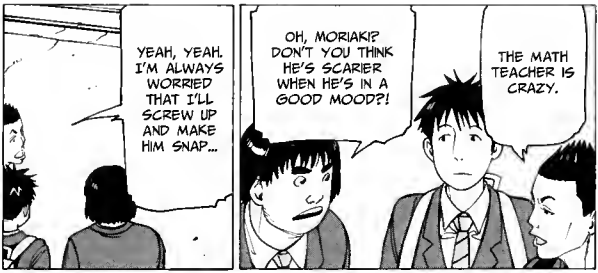
CHAPTER 61

THE GREAT BEAST APPEARS AT OYA HIGH SCHOOL




ARE THOSE NEW FIRST-YEARS?

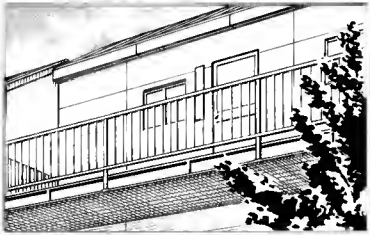

IF YOU SEE SOMEONE WHOSE PANTS ARE PRESSED AND NOT VERY WRINKLED AT THIS TIME OF YEAR...
...HE'S PROBABLY A NEW STUDENT.


YEAH, YEAH. I'M ALWAYS WORRIED THAT I'LL SCREW UP AND MAKE HIM SNAP...
OH, MORIAKI? DON'T YOU THINK HE'S SCARIER WHEN HE'S IN A GOOD MOOD?!
THE MATH TEACHER IS CRAZY.

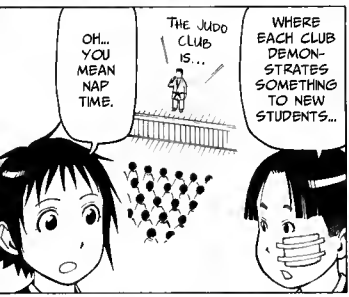
IT'S NOT THAT EASY TO UNDERSTAND ANOTHER PERSON...
I THINK HE'S EASY TO UNDER-STAND.
YIKES, NOBODY LIKES MORIARKY.
THAT GOES FOR EVERY TEACHER WHO IS DIFFICULT TO UNDER-STAND...

BUILDING: OYA HIGH SCHOOL

SIGN: FILM CLUB



POSTER: DRAGONFLY VS. OPTOMETRIST



YOU MADE IT SOUND LIKE YOU DID HALF THE WORK, AND YOU ONLY MADE ONE ARM!
I MADE THIS LEFT ARM!
GLOW GLOW
ボレ ホレ

BY THE WAY, IT TOOK TANBA-SAN AND ME HALF A YEAR TO MAKE THIS MONSTER.

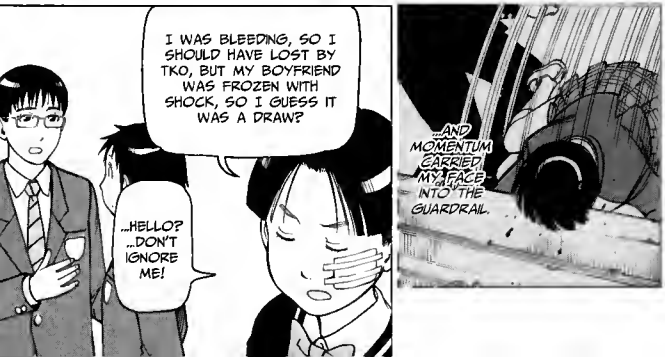
I'M ASSUMING YOU DIDN'T JUST WANT TO SHOW ME THE MONSTER.
WHY DID YOU WANT TO SEE ME?
...SO?

WHAT?! HE HIT A GIRL IN THE FACE?! THAT'S LOW!!

I GOT IN A FIGHT WITH MY BOYFRIEND, WHO'S A BOXER..
FUKUZAWA-SAN WAS SUPPOSED TO BE THE STAR OF THE FILM, BUT SHE GOT HER FACE INJURED..
YES, YES. ABOUT THAT...

NO, WAIT...
I SEE. YOU WANT ME TO TEACH THAT GUY A LESSON, RIGHT?!
WAIT...
JUST YOU WAIT. HE'LL NEVER HURT ANOTHER GIRL...
JUST LISTEN TO ME!

FLASH-BACK
SOR-RY.
YOU NINCOM-POOP!!
I TRIED TO SLAP HIM, BUT HE DUCKED MY SWING...
WHOA!

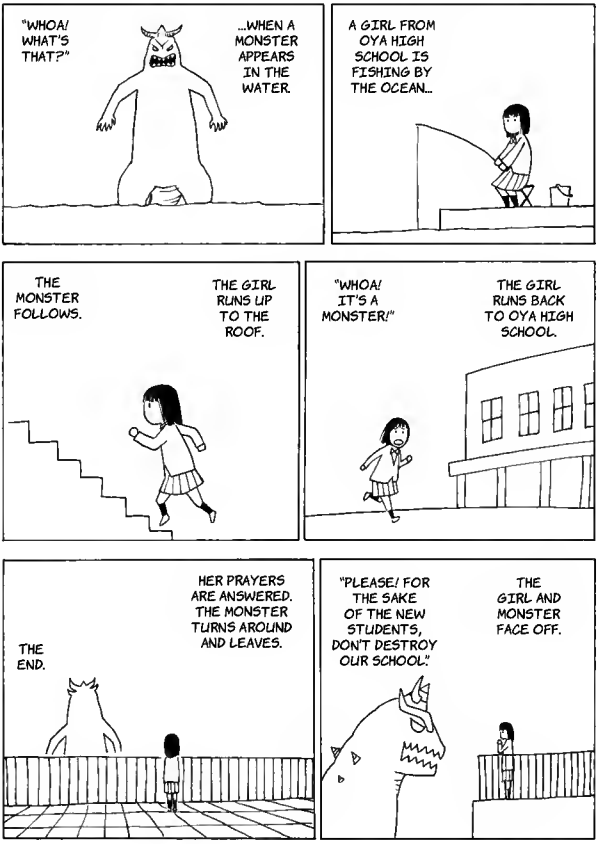

I WAS BLEEDING, SO I SHOULD HAVE LOST BY TKO, BUT MY BOYFRIEND WAS FROZEN WITH SHOCK, SO I GUESS IT WAS A DRAW?
...HELLO? ...DON'T IGNORE ME!
...AND MOMENTUM CARRIED MY FACE INTO THE GUARDRAIL.

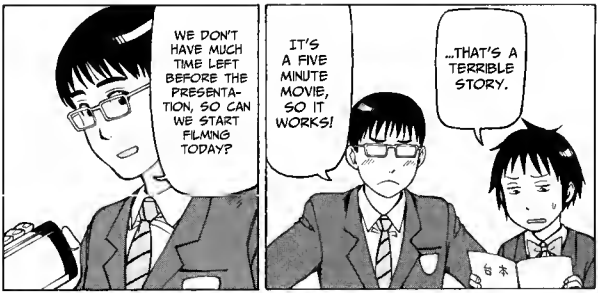
...HMM?
NOT TOO BAD?!
...SINCE YOU'RE NOT TOO BAD ON THE EYES.
SO ARASHIYAMA-SAN, WE NEED YOU TO TAKE HER PLACE...

OH... NO... I'M...
TANBA-SAN, WAS IT? SHE'S PRETTY CUTE. WHY DON'T YOU USE HER?

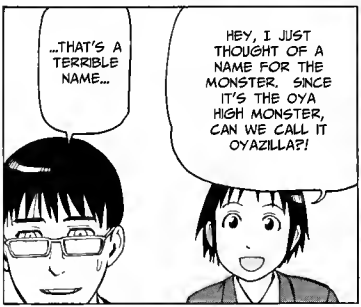
REALLY ?!
...WELL, I DON'T MIND HELPING.
THEN WHAT KIND OF PERSON DO YOU THINK I AM, SUZUKI?!
STOP IT. TANBA ISN'T THAT KIND OF PERSON.

"THE GREAT BEAST APPEARS AT OYA HIGH SCHOOL" BY SUZUKI TAKAHIRO


"WHOA! WHAT'S THAT?"
...WHEN A MONSTER APPEARS IN THE WATER.
A GIRL FROM OYA HIGH SCHOOL IS FISHING BY THE OCEAN...
THE MONSTER FOLLOWS.
THE GIRL RUNS UP TO THE ROOF.
"WHOA! IT'S A MONSTER!"
THE GIRL RUNS BACK TO OYA HIGH SCHOOL.
HER PRAYERS ARE ANSWERED. THE MONSTER TURNS AROUND AND LEAVES.
THE END.
"PLEASE! FOR THE SAKE OF THE NEW STUDENTS, DON'T DESTROY OUR SCHOOL."
THE GIRL AND MONSTER FACE OFF.


WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME LEFT BEFORE THE PRESENTATION, SO CAN WE START FILMING TODAY?
IT'S A FIVE MINUTE MOVIE, SO IT WORKS!
...THAT'S A TERRIBLE STORY.
台本

NO, WE'LL DO OUR FILMING AT SCHOOL AND USE CG FOR EVERYTHING ELSE.
IF WE HEAD DOWN TO THE OCEAN NOW, IT'LL BE NIGHT BY THE TIME WE GET THERE.


...THAT'S A TERRIBLE NAME...
HEY, I JUST THOUGHT OF A NAME FOR THE MONSTER. SINCE IT'S THE OYA HIGH MONSTER, CAN WE CALL IT OYAZILLA?!

FOR THE MONSTER, WE'LL JUST EDIT FOOTAGE OF THE MODEL SITTING IN OUR ROOM.
AHH.

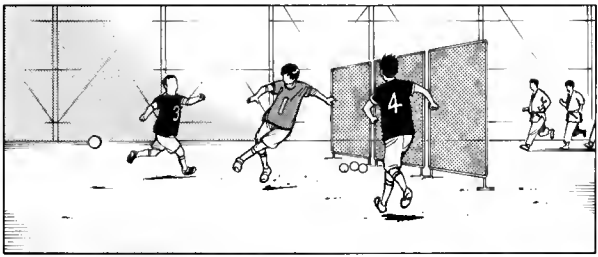
OKAY, CAMERA'S ROLLING NOW—
NO! I'M MAKING SURE THEY CAN'T SEE THE SCHOOL BUILDING OR OTHER STUDENTS!
THAT'S AN ODD ANGLE TO USE... ARE YOU TRYING TO LOOK UNDER MY SKIRT?

"WHAT IS THAT?!"
"WHOA!"
OKAY, THE MONSTER APPEARED.

OKAY, THAT'S GOOD.
.....
.....

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! DON'T FOOL AROUND! ARE YOU GOING TO BE ABLE TO GRADUATE?!
WHA...

YEP.
NEXT, WE NEED THE SCENE WHERE SHE RUNS BACK TO SCHOOL...
CAN I ADD THE LINE, "IT'S A MON-STER!"?
UH HUH, WE CAN DUB THAT PART IN LATER.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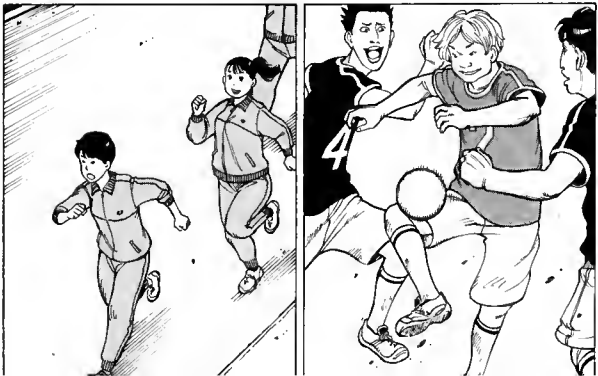
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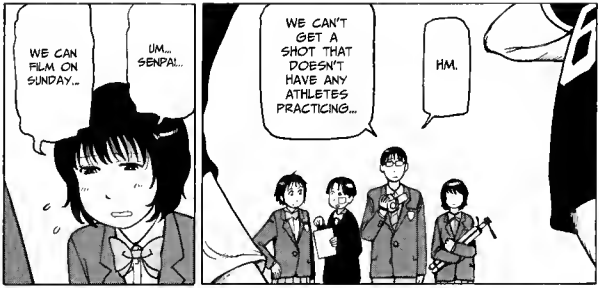
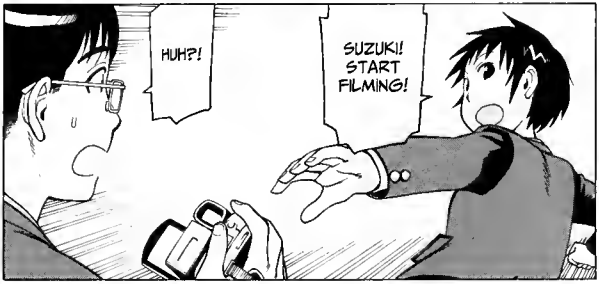
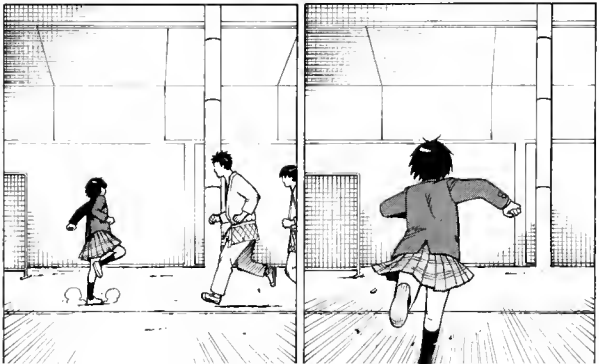

UM... SENPAI...
WE CAN FILM ON SUNDAY...
HM.
WE CAN'T GET A SHOT THAT DOESN'T HAVE ANY ATHLETES PRACTICING...


HUH?!
SUZUKI! START FILMING!



SHIRT FRONTS: OYA HIGH SCHOOL

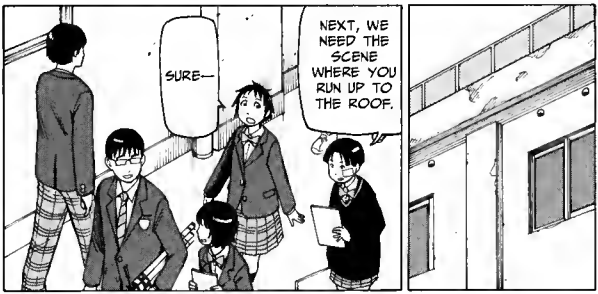
SHIRTS: YAMASHITA, MIFUNE, KOGA

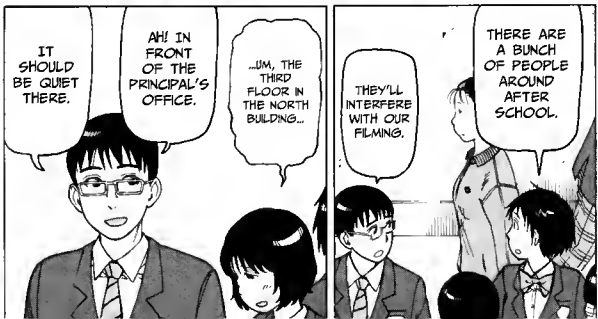
"WHOA— IT'S A MON-STER—!"
HUH?
OH.

WHOA—! IT'S A MONSTER—!
AAH!

ドドドドドド
RUMBLE
OH...
OH!

THOUGH IT LOOKS ODD THAT THEY'RE ALL WEARING JUDO UNIFORMS!!
..WE HAVE A GOOD SHOT OF PEOPLE RUNNING AWAY FROM OYAZILLA!!
THANKS TO ARASHI-YAMA...

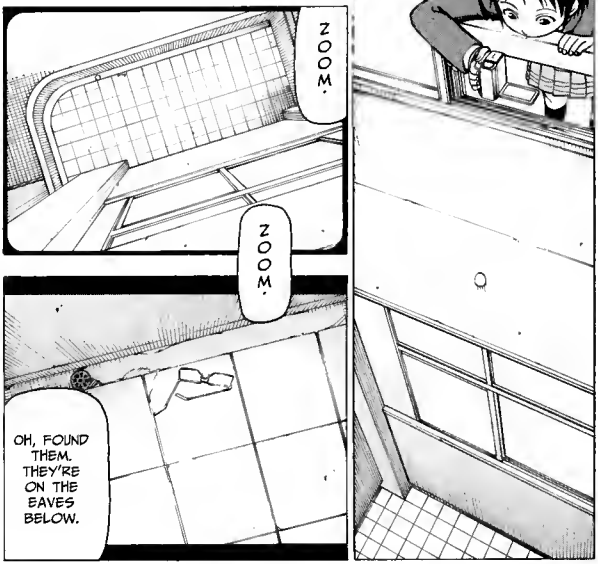

SURE—
NEXT, WE NEED THE SCENE WHERE YOU RUN UP TO THE ROOF.

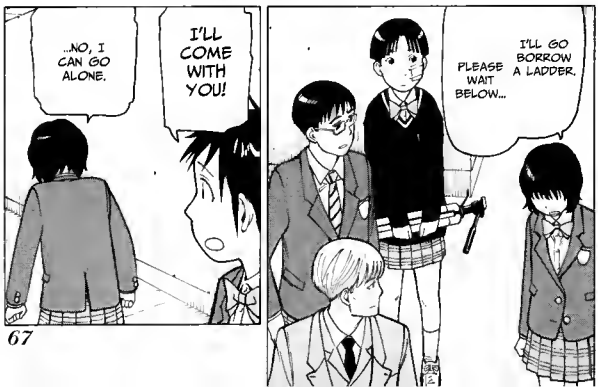

IT SHOULD BE QUIET THERE.
AH! IN FRONT OF THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE.
...UM, THE THIRD FLOOR IN THE NORTH BUILDING...
THEY'LL INTERFERE WITH OUR FILMING.
THERE ARE A BUNCH OF PEOPLE AROUND AFTER SCHOOL.

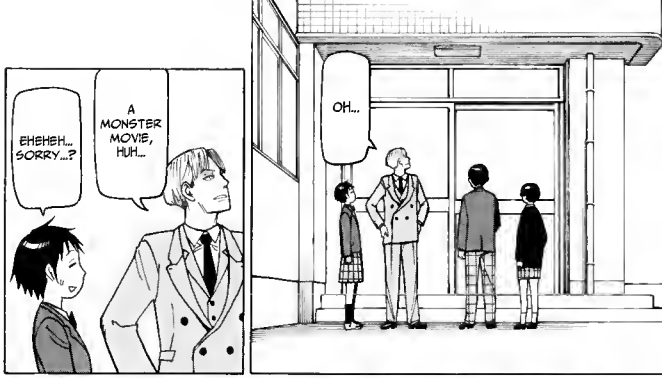
HUH?
MAN, HE'S IN THE WAY.
MORIARKY IS LOOKING OUT THE WINDOW.
START FILMING. I'LL GET THE TEACHER TO HELP.
THEN LET'S BORROW THE KEY TO THE ROOF FIRST...

…WUH? - A HYBRID OF "WHAT?" AND "HUH?"

HUH...
MY GLASS-ES!!
MY...
OOPS.
YOU MADE ME DROP MY GLASSES WHEN YOU SUDDENLY GRABBED ME—!


ZOOM.
ZOOM.
OH, FOUND THEM. THEY'RE ON THE EAVES BELOW.


..NO, I CAN GO ALONE.
I'LL COME WITH YOU!
I'LL GO BORROW A LADDER.
PLEASE WAIT BELOW...

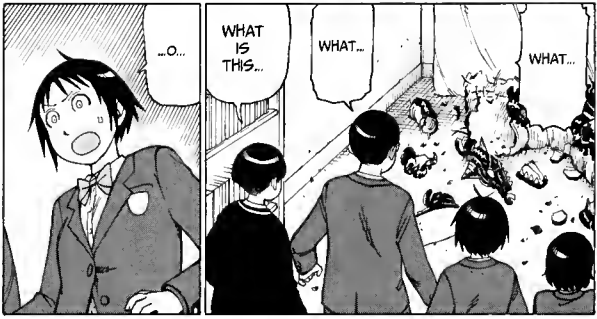

EHEHEH... SORRY...?
A MONSTER MOVIE, HUH...
OH...

I'M THE GIRL WHO CALMS DOWN THE MONSTER.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, MR. MORIAKI?!
CASTING ARASHIYAMA AS THE MONSTER IS BRILLIANT!

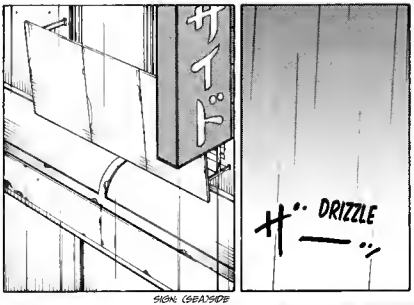
ODD... MAYBE IT ONLY WORKS ON THE MONSTER?
WHEN YOU'VE NEVER MANAGED TO CALM MY RAGE?!

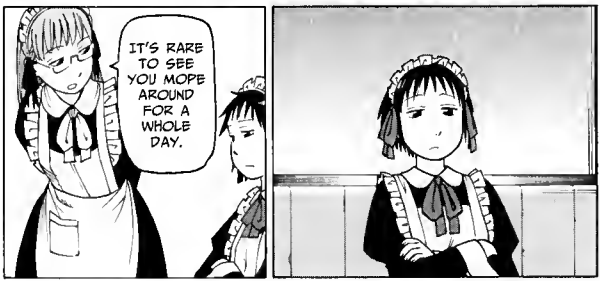
SORRY ABOUT TAKING SO LONG... HERE'S THE LADDER...
BE CAREFUL, SUZUKI...
HEY, YOU DON'T NEED TO FILM THIS!
AH!
SORRY.....

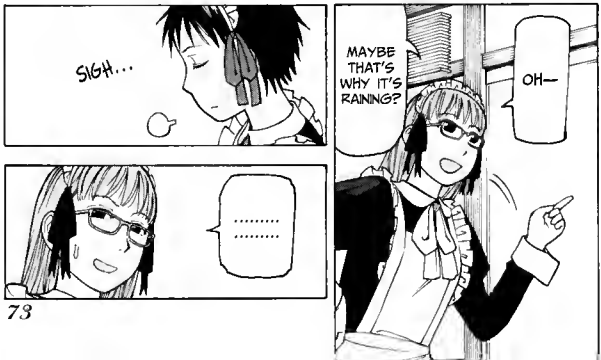
MAN, IT'S A GOOD THING YOU HAVE A KEY TO THE ROOF.
TOMORROW, WE CAN START FILMING THE MONSTER.
カチャ "CLICK
THANKS TO YOU, WE'VE FINISHED THE SCENES WITH THE GIRL.
AH!


...O...
WHAT IS THIS...
WHAT...
WHAT...

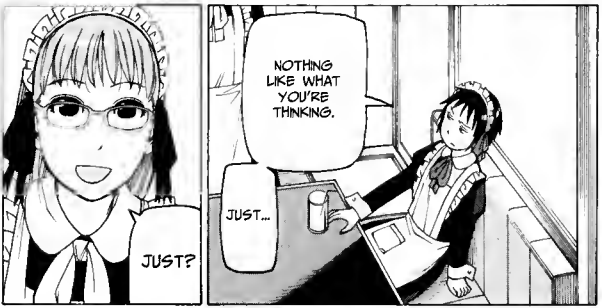
OYA-ZILLA—!!

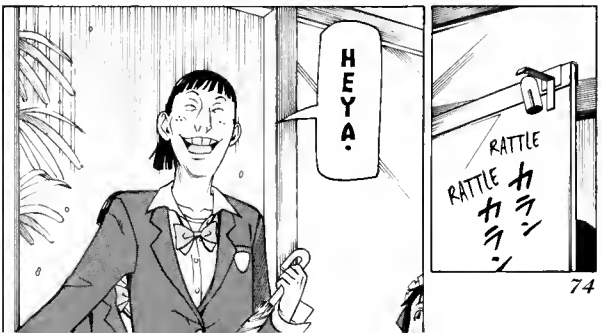

サイド
SIGN: (SEA)SIDE
DRIZZLE


IT'S RARE TO SEE YOU MOPE AROUND FOR A WHOLE DAY.

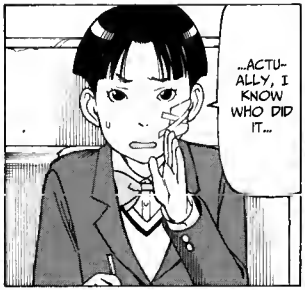

SIGH...
MAYBE THAT'S WHY IT'S RAINING?
OH—
.....
.....

YOU MET WITH SUZUKI-KUN AFTER SCHOOL YESTERDAY, RIGHT?
DID SOME-THING HAPPEN?


NOTHING LIKE WHAT YOU'RE THINKING.
JUST...
JUST?


HEYA.
RATTLE
RATTLE
カラン
カラン

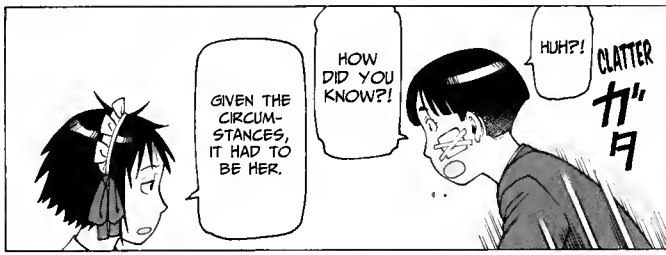
FUKU-ZAWA-SAN.
I HAVE A VISITOR FOR ARASHI-YAMA-SAN.
SUZUKI-KUN DIDN'T COME TO THE CLUBROOM AFTER SCHOOL. HOW WAS HE DURING CLASS?
HE SPENT THE WHOLE DAY BROODING.
THIS WAS NO INNOCENT PRANK... I WILL FIND THE CULPRIT AND MAKE THAT PERSON SUFFER THE WAY OYAZILLA DID...


...ACTUALLY, I KNOW WHO DID IT...

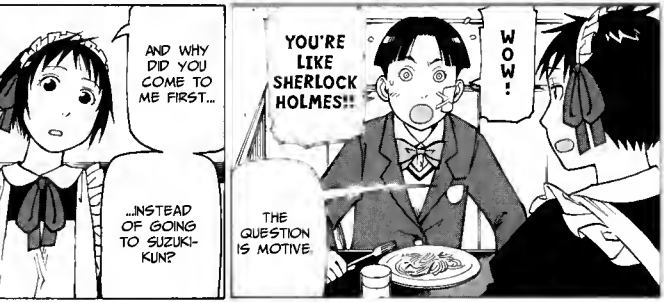
YEAH...
THE FRIENDLY PEOPLE ARE ALWAYS THE ONES WHO GO CRAZY WHEN THEY SNAP...

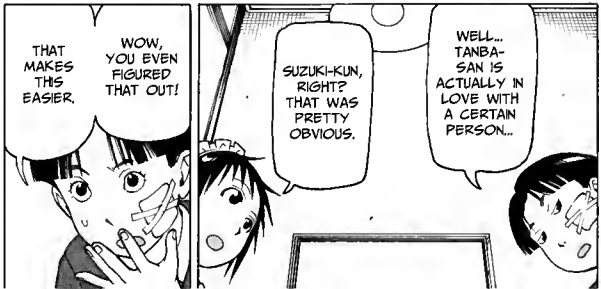
IT WAS TANBA-SAN, RIGHT?
HIDING HER IDENTITY WILL JUST MAKE IT HARDER TO EXPLAIN.

THE CULPRIT CONFESSED TO ME TODAY...
AND...
THAT PERSON IS... WELL, WHERE DO I EVEN START...


HUH?!
CLATTER
ガタ
HOW DID YOU KNOW?!
GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, IT HAD TO BE HER.

THE MODEL WAS COMPLETELY TORN APART, YET THE ARM THAT SUZUKI MADE WAS COMPLETELY UNHARMED.
ONLY THE TWO PEOPLE WHO MADE THE MODEL WOULD BE ABLE TO RECOGNIZE WHO MADE WHAT.
PLUS, TANBA-SAN WAS THE ONE WHO LOCKED THE DOOR, AND SHE'S THE ONLY ONE WITHOUT AN ALIBI WHEN SHE WENT TO GRAB THE LADDER.


WOW!
YOU'RE LIKE SHERLOCK HOLMES!!
THE QUESTION IS MOTIVE.
AND WHY DID YOU COME TO ME FIRST...
...INSTEAD OF GOING TO SUZUKI-KUN?


WELL... TANBA-SAN IS ACTUALLY IN LOVE WITH A CERTAIN PERSON...
SUZUKI-KUN, RIGHT? THAT WAS PRETTY OBVIOUS.
WOW, YOU EVEN FIGURED THAT OUT!
THAT MAKES THIS EASIER.

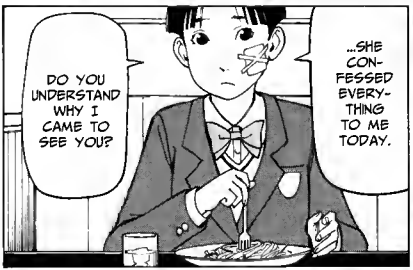
THE STORY BEGAN ONE YEAR AGO.
WE MANAGED TO RECRUIT ONE NEW MEMBER, BUT SHE'S TOO QUIET...
I HAVE NO IDEA HOW TO HANDLE HER
THIS IS AN ORDER FROM YOUR SENPAI, FUKUZAWA. GO ENGAGE IN GIRL TALK.
WHAT...? I'VE ONLY SEEN DISNEY MOVIES...
WHY DID YOU JOIN THIS CLUB?
I'LL GO.
I THOUGHT IT WOULD HELP ME LEARN HOW TO BECOME AN ACTRESS.
...TANBA-SAN, WHAT KIND OF MOVIES DO YOU LIKE?

ER.
UM.
...TOKU-SATSU.
TOKU-SATSU!
I'M A BIG FAN OF THE GODZILLA SERIES. DO YOU WATCH MONSTER MOVIES?
TOKUSATSU: FILM AND TV SHOW GENRE KNOWN FOR USE OF SPECIAL EFFECTS, OFTEN FEATURING MONSTERS AND SUPERHEROES.
I-I...
I... ALSO...
...LIKE MON-STER MOVIES.
REALLY? HAVE YOU SEEN GODZILLA VS. ALSATIAN?
YES, I SAW IT TWICE...
WHILE I'M IN HIGH SCHOOL ...
...I WANT TO MAKE A MONSTER MOVIE.
I TRIED USING A PLASTIC FIGURE ONCE...
...BUT IT LOOKED HORRIBLE ON CLOSE-UP SHOTS.

I GUESS YOU NEED A FAIRLY LARGE MONSTER TO MAKE IT WORK.
I-I-I CAN...
...MAKE ONE.
I'M GOING TO MAKE A MOVIE...
...WITH SUZUKI-SENPAI.
BUT THEN....
YESTER-DAY
WHO IS SHE?!

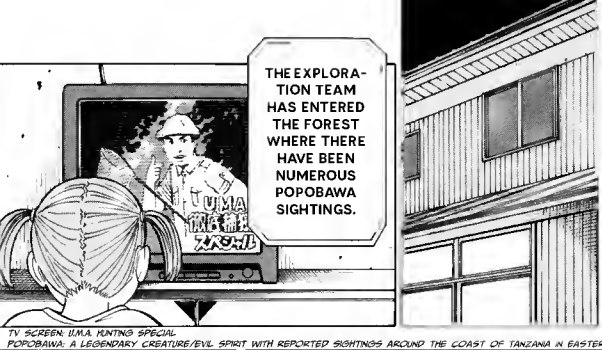
※IMAGE
IT WAS ALL THANKS TO YOU.
※IMAGE
THANKS TO YOU, WE GOT SOME GOOD FOOTAGE!
THIS ISN'T OUR MOVIE!
THIS IS WRONG...
DON'T CALL OUR MONSTER OYAZILLA, SUZUKI-SENPAI.

ITS NAME IS TANBA-SUZUKI-GON!

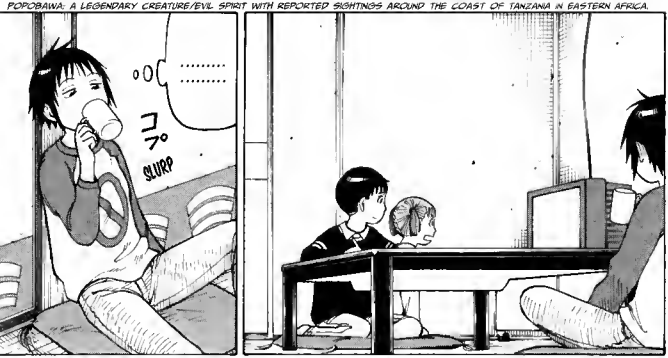

DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHY I CAME TO SEE YOU?
...SHE CONFESSED EVERYTHING TO ME TODAY.

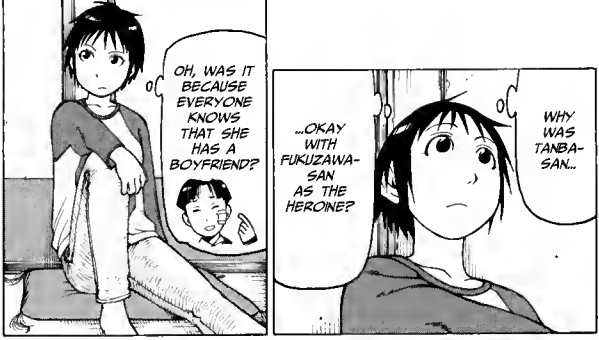
COFFEE
シーサ

YOU, YOUR, YOU. (YOUR FAULT.)
I, MY, ME? (MY FAULT?)



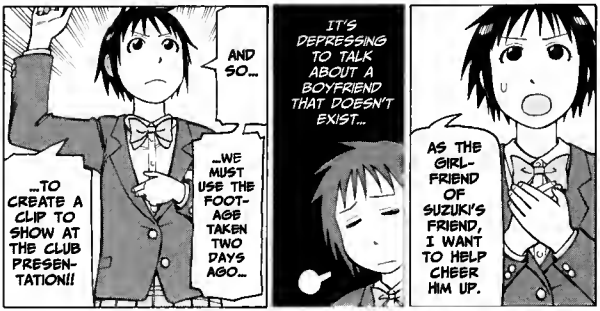
TV SCREEN: U.M.A. HUNTING SPECIAL
POPOBAWA: A LEGENDARY CREATURE/EVIL SPIRIT WITH REPORTED SIGHTINGS AROUND THE COAST OF TANZANIA IN EASTERN AFRICA.



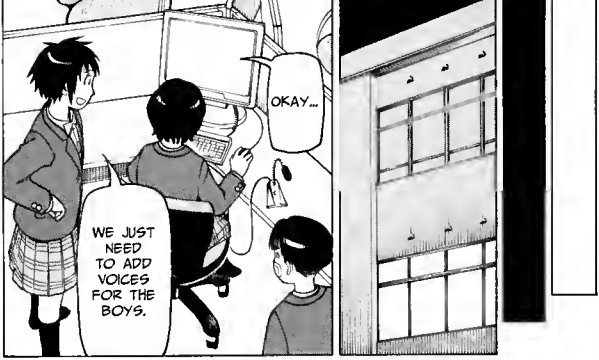

OH, WAS IT BECAUSE EVERYONE KNOWS THAT SHE HAS A BOYFRIEND?
...OKAY WITH FUKUZAWA-SAN AS THE HEROINE?
WHY WAS TANBA-SAN...

TANBA, SUZUKI ISN'T POPULAR ENOUGH TO WARRANT YOUR CONCERN...
HMM.

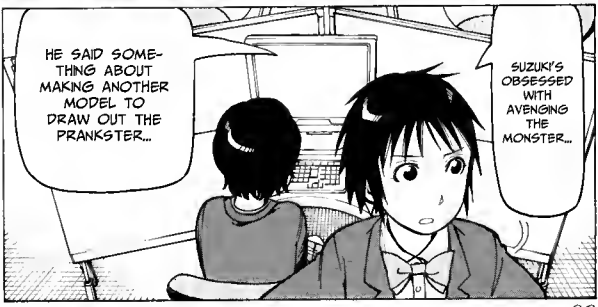
SO—
SUZUKI IS A FRIEND OF MY BOYFRIEND.
AS YOU BOTH KNOW, SUZUKI IS FEELING DOWN BECAUSE SOMEONE DESTROYED OYAZ... THE MONSTER.
SO!


AS THE GIRL-FRIEND OF SUZUKI'S FRIEND, I WANT TO HELP CHEER HIM UP.
IT'S DEPRESSING TO TALK ABOUT A BOYFRIEND THAT DOESN'T EXIST...
AND SO...
...WE MUST USE THE FOOT-AGE TAKEN TWO DAYS AGO...
...TO CREATE A CLIP TO SHOW AT THE CLUB PRESEN-TATION!!

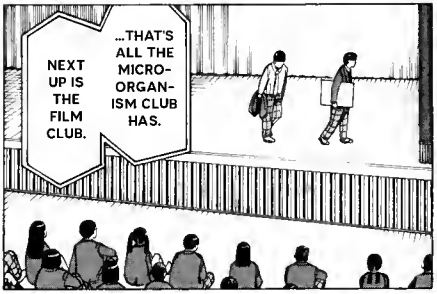
SINCE SUZUKI IS GONE, TANBA-SAN IS THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN DO VIDEO EDITING.
PLEASE DO YOUR BEST FOR SUZUKI.

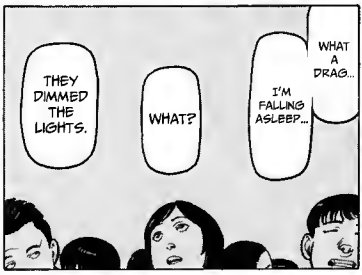

OKAY...
WE JUST NEED TO ADD VOICES FOR THE BOYS.

SURE.
FUKUZAWA-SAN, BRING SUZUKI HERE.

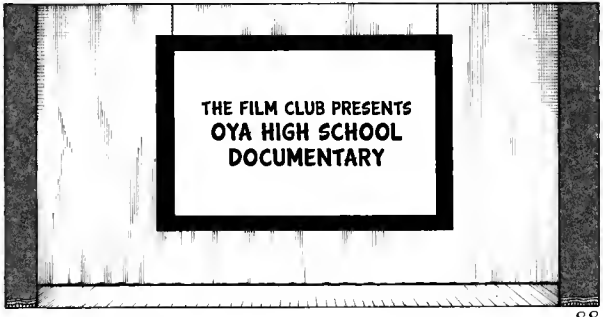

HE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT MAKING ANOTHER MODEL TO DRAW OUT THE PRANKSTER...
SUZUKI'S OBSESSED WITH AVENGING THE MONSTER...

GLANCE
チラ
IS THERE ANYONE OUT THERE...
...WHO CAN STOP HIM..?
BUT I CAN'T DO ANYTHING.
I DON'T WANT HIM TO SACRIFICE ANOTHER ONE OF HIS BELOVED MONSTERS.
I DID WHAT I COULD.
I CAN'T TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR WHAT HAPPENS NEXT.
...IT SHOULD BE FINE.
ARE YOU SURE ABOUT LEAVING HER ALONE WITH SUZUKI?


NEXT UP IS THE FILM CLUB.
...THAT'S ALL THE MICRO-ORGAN-ISM CLUB HAS.


THEY DIMMED THE LIGHTS.
WHAT?
I'M FALLING ASLEEP...
WHAT A DRAG...

WHIR—


THE FILM CLUB PRESENTS
OYA HIGH SCHOOL DOCUMENTARY

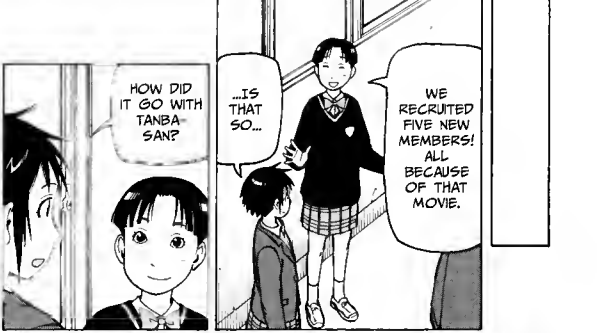
AH, WHAT'S THAT?!
THE EXPLORATION TEAM HAS ENTERED OYA HIGH SCHOOL, WHERE MANY TEACHERS RESIDE.
I'LL MAKE CONTACT WITH MR. MORIAKI!
IT'S THE MATH TEACHER, MR. MORIAKI.
WE HAVE OUR FIRST ENCOUNTER.
MR. MORIAKI! DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY TO THE NEW STUDENTS?!

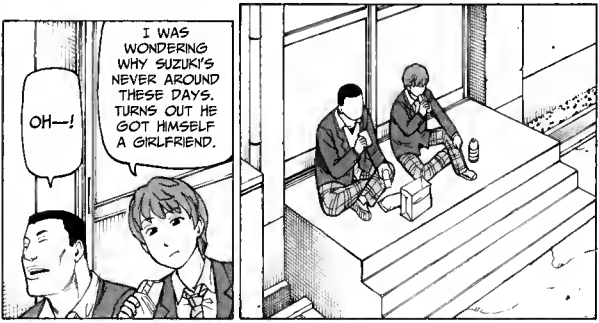
APPARENTLY, HE WAS STARING OUT THE WINDOW WHEN HE DROPPED HIS GLASSES.
I JUST DROPPED MY GLASS-ES!!
THEN WE FINALLY SECURED THEM.
WE ATTEMPTED TO FISH HIS GLASSES UP.
WILL THIS PLEASE MR. MORIAKI?
NOW, LET'S RETURN THE GLASSES.

HOWEVER, TAKAHATA, THE FILM CLUB ADVISOR, IS VERY NICE, SO YOU SHOULD JOIN THE CLUB.
DOES IT MAKE SENSE FOR HIM TO YELL AT US WHEN HE WAS THE ONE WHO DROPPED THEM?

DIRECTOR: ALAN SMITHEE
EDITING: TANBA RIN
FILMING: SUZUKI TAKAHIRO

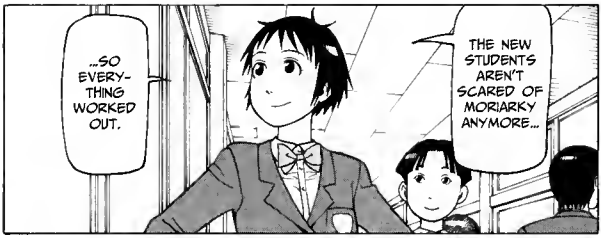
STARRING: ARASHIYAMA HOTORI
MR. MORIAKI
JUDO CLUB MEMBERS
NARRATION: FUKUZAWA AKIRA
MR. MORIAKI'S VOICE: SUZUKI TAKAHIRO

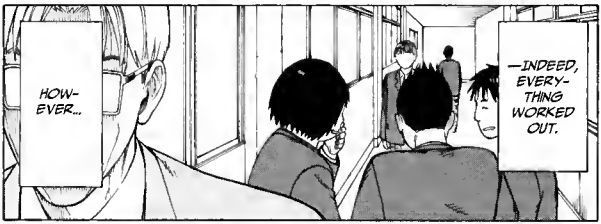

HOW DID IT GO WITH TANBA SAN?
...IS THAT SO...
WE RECRUITED FIVE NEW MEMBERS! ALL BECAUSE OF THAT MOVIE.


I WAS WONDERING WHY SUZUKI'S NEVER AROUND THESE DAYS. TURNS OUT HE GOT HIMSELF A GIRLFRIEND.
OH—!

.....SO...
THAT'S GOOD NEWS!

YOU MEAN TO SAY THAT... I'M CRYING...?
THOSE ARE TEARS OF FRUSTRATION...
WHY IS THERE WATER LEAKING FROM MY EYES?
SNORT
"PAY FOR MY GLASSES—"
MORIAKI!
OH, IT'S MORIAKI.





CHAPTER 61 / END

KAMEIDOU ANTIQUES RECOMMENDATIONS

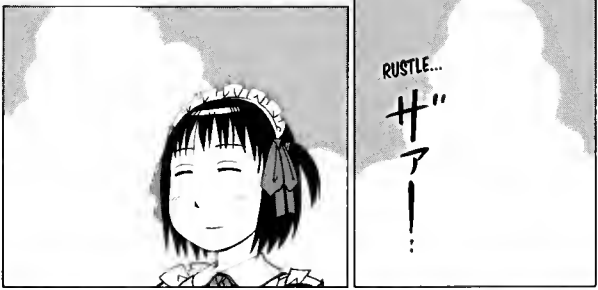
RIDDLE 3,500-5,000 YEN

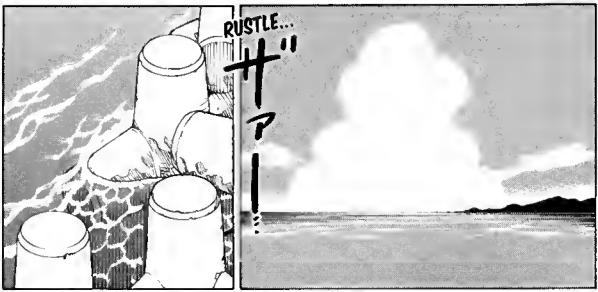
WE HAVE NO IDEA WHAT TO DO WITH THIS...
IT'S METAL AND HEAVY...
IT'S PROBABLY NOT A BOMB...
YOU CAN USE IT TO DECORATE THE HOUSE...
OH, I JUST MADE UP THE NAME.
(KAMEIDOU SHIZUKA)

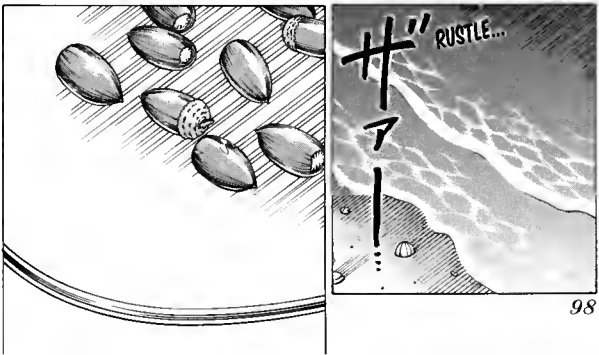
JOSEPHINE THE KNOW-IT-ALL 2

CHAPTER 62

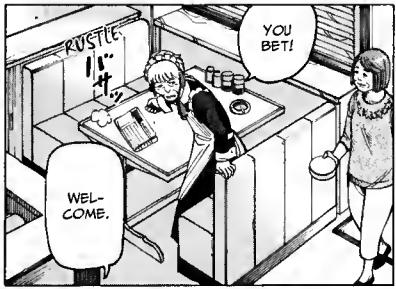
DANCING DRAGNET


RUSTLE...
ザアー!

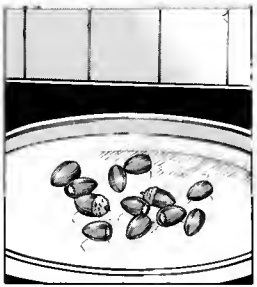

RUSTLE...
ザアー!

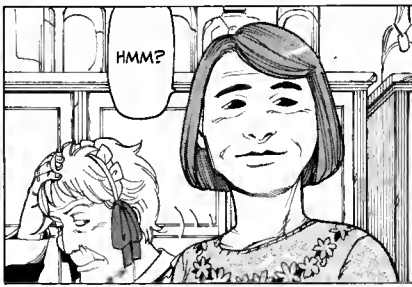

ザアー
RUSTLE...

すぅ
INHALE...
RATTLE...
ザラ〜
RUSTLE...
ザ"
THIS ISN'T A RACKET, TATSU-NINO.
IT'S HOT AS HELL, AND YOU'RE OVER THERE MAKING A RACKET!!
KEEP IT DOWN!!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO YELL...
IT SOUNDS LIKE A BUNCH OF ACORNS ROLLING AROUND ON A TRAY, SO STOP!
DOESN'T IT SOUND LIKE WAVES?
ザラ〜〜...
RUSTLE...

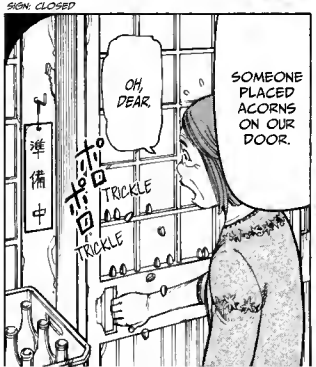

RUSTLE
バサッ
YOU BET!
WEL-COME.

RATTLE
カラン
RATTLE
カラン
ARE YOU THERE, UKI-CHAN?

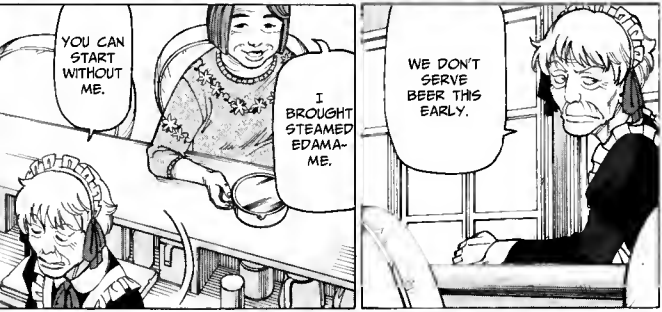



HMM?

SIGN: CLOSED


準備中
ポロポロ
TRICKLE
TRICKLE
OH, DEAR.
SOMEONE PLACED ACORNS ON OUR DOOR.

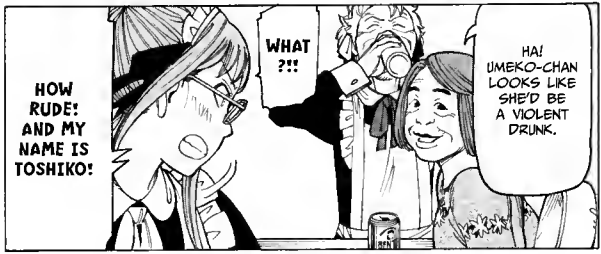
IT MUST HAVE BEEN HOTORI-CHAN...
...? WHAT MUST HAVE BEEN?

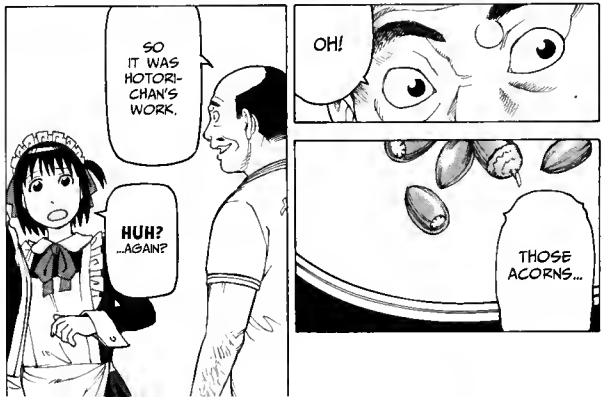


EDAMAME: IMMATURE SOYBEANS THAT ARE TYPICALLY EATEN AS A SIDE DISH.

...DID YOU DYE YOUR HAIR AGAIN?
YOU CAN TELL?
I FEEL BETTER WITH A LITTLE ALCOHOL IN MY SYSTEM.
COME ON... YOU'RE LYING...
YOU'LL UNDERSTAND ONE DAY, HOTORI-CHAN.
YOUNG GIRL...
A MAN WILL ALWAYS BE A BOY IN PUBERTY. A WOMAN WILL ALWAYS BE A YOUNG GIRL AT HEART.
YOU SHOULD DYE YOUR WHITE HAIR.
PLEASE STOP FIGHTING OVER HOW TO INSULT ME...
YOU WERE HOTORI!
NO, YOU WERE!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WAS LIKE HOTORI!
UKI-CHAN USED TO BE JUST LIKE YOU, HOTORI-CHAN.

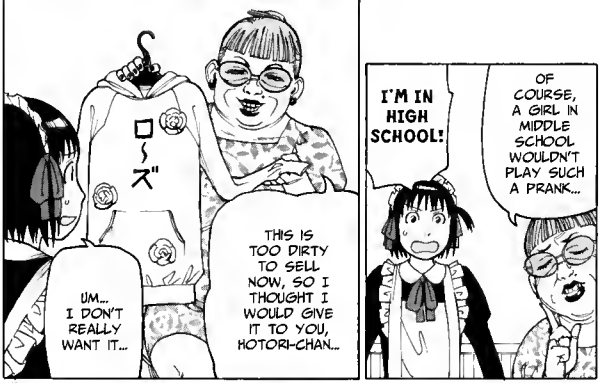
SHIRT: YASUNE LIQUOR



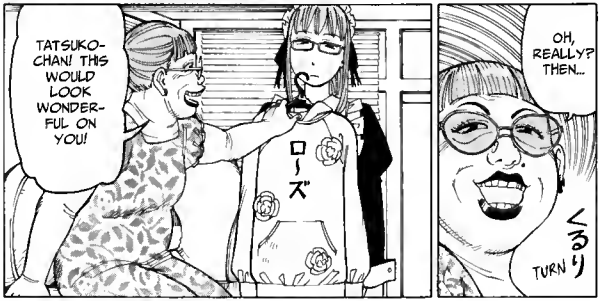


HUH? IT WASN'T YOU?
I KNOW NOTHING!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO PLACED ACORNS ON TOP OF MY MERCHANDISE, RIGHT?
IT MUST HAVE BEEN ONE OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD KIDS...
YOU SHOULD HAVE SUSPECTED THEM FIRST!!
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU MEAN.
THEN YOU WEREN'T THE ONE WHO LEFT A GAME CONSOLE IN THE ALLEY NEXT TO MY STORE...
RATTLE
RATTLE
カラコン
カン
YIKES, IT'S SO HOT OUTSIDE...!

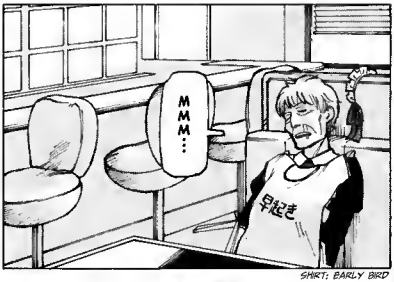
CLATTER
カラン
ICE, PLEASE!
THUMP
ドッ
AHA...
SO IT WAS HOTORI-CHAN?
ACORNS!!
HMM?
I DIDN'T DO IT!!
SO YOU DIDN'T STUFF THE POCKETS OF THE CLOTHES IN MY STORE WITH ACORNS...
THE ACORNS HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH ME!
WHAT'S GOING ON?!


ロ～ズ
THIS IS TOO DIRTY TO SELL NOW, SO I THOUGHT I WOULD GIVE IT TO YOU, HOTORI-CHAN...
UM... I DON'T REALLY WANT IT...
I'M IN HIGH SCHOOL!
OF COURSE, A GIRL IN MIDDLE SCHOOL WOULDN'T PLAY SUCH A PRANK...

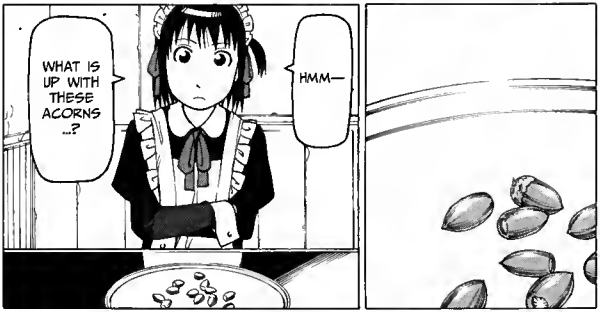
SHIRT: ROSE


TATSUKO-CHAN! THIS WOULD LOOK WONDER-FUL ON YOU!
ロ～ズ
OH, REALLY? THEN...
くるり
TURN

OH... DEAR...
IT'S TATSUNO. IT'S TOSHIKO. DON'T MIX THEM TOGETHER.



SHIRT: EARLY BIRD



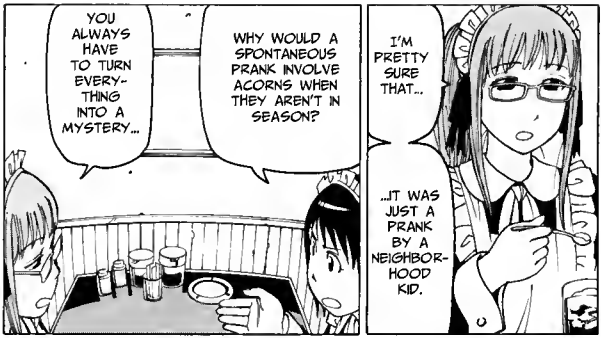
THERE MUST BE A SINGLE MASTER-MIND BEHIND THIS CRIME.
IT'S NOT ACORN SEASON, BUT WE HAVE A BUNCH OF ACORN PRANKS…
YOU GOT THAT RIGHT…
IT'S THE WRONG SEASON FOR ACORNS.
YEAH!

MAYBE I SHOULD PLAY ARMCHAIR DETECTIVE!
YOU HAVE A GOOD NAME...?
I CAN'T LET THEM CONTINUE TO SULLY MY GOOD NAME.
EVERYONE SUSPECTS ME BECAUSE THEY THINK I HAVEN'T CHANGED SINCE I WAS A KID...

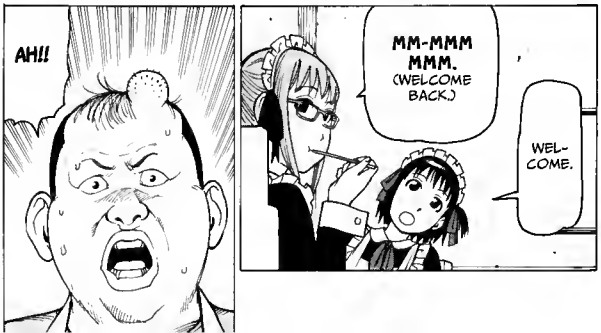
YUKIKO'S MORE OF A PRANK-STER...
...BUT SHE WOULDN'T KEEP ACORNS FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR.
I SUSPECTED HIM FOR A SECOND, BUT HE USUALLY DOESN'T PLAY PRANKS...
SPEAKING OF ACORNS, TAKERU IS AN ACORNIST ...

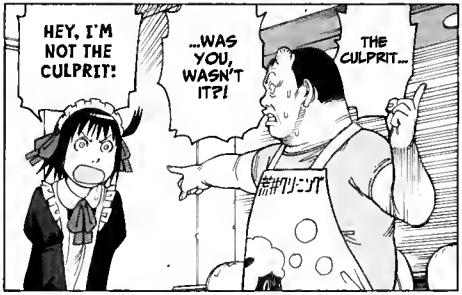
*ACORNIST: PROBABLY REFERS TO SOMEONE WHO ENJOYS COLLECTING ACORNS.

THE ONLY CONNECTION IS THAT WE'RE ALL IN THE SAME TOWN, SO NONE OF US WERE SPECIFICALLY TARGETED...
...THE BAR, AND THE CLOTHING STORE.
SO FAR, THE ACORNS HAVE STRUCK OUR MAILBOX, THE 100 YEN STORE...


I'M PRETTY SURE THAT...
...IT WAS JUST A PRANK BY A NEIGHBORHOOD KID.
WHY WOULD A SPONTANEOUS PRANK INVOLVE ACORNS WHEN THEY AREN'T IN SEASON?
YOU ALWAYS HAVE TO TURN EVERYTHING INTO A MYSTERY...

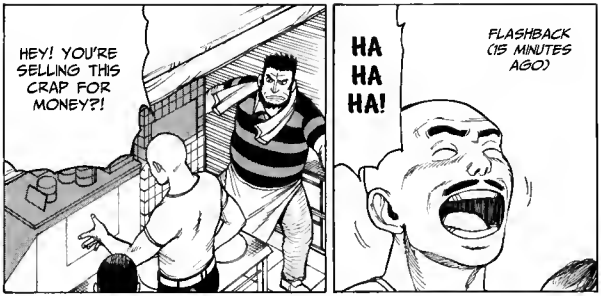
APRON: ARAI DRY CLEANING

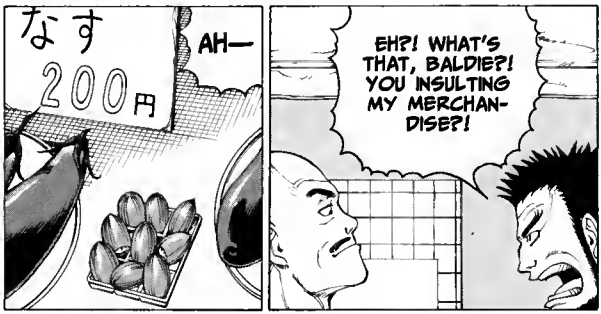



HEY, I'M NOT THE CULPRIT!
...WAS YOU, WASN'T IT?!
THE CULPRIT...
A-
ACORNS!!

...WAS THESE ACORNS.
THE CAUSE...
I'M SURE YOU NOTICED THIS BUMP WHEN I WALKED IN.

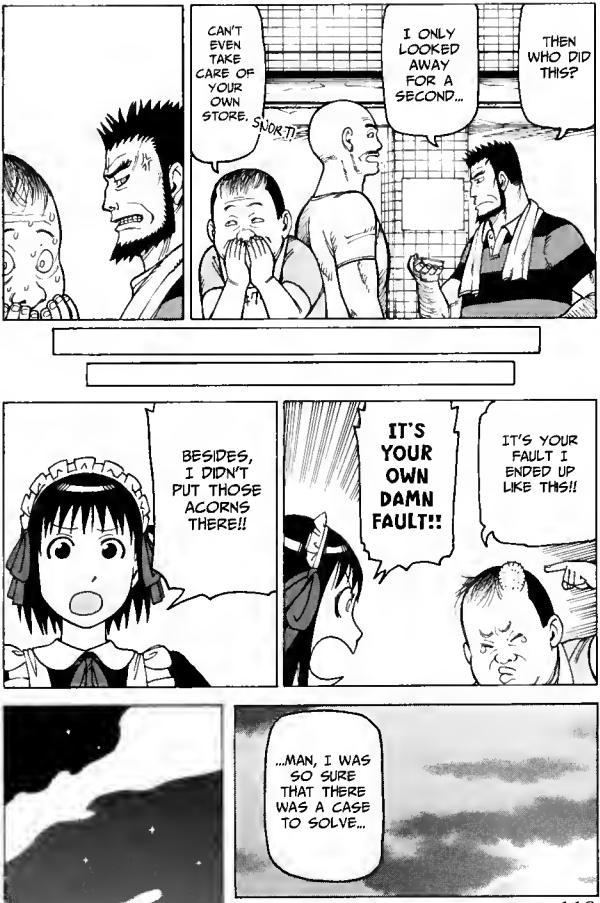
TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED! I WILL UNCOVER THE TRUTH.
...MUST BE TIED TO A BIGGER MYSTERY!
I KNEW DEEP DOWN THAT THESE ACORNS...
THERE IT IS!!



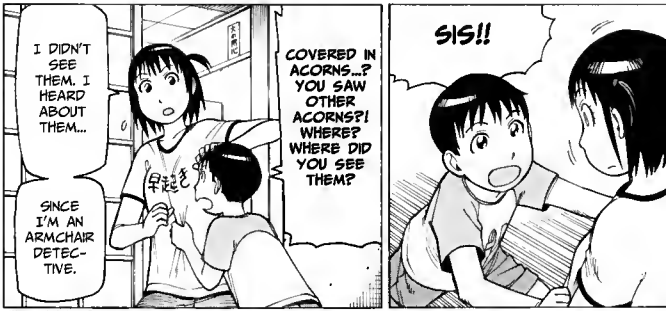


SIGN: EGGPLANTS 200 YEN

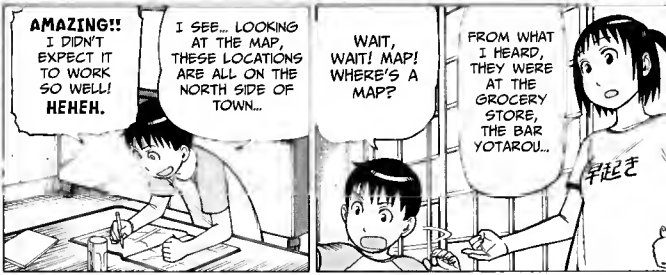
YEAH.
THEY WERE ALREADY HERE WHEN WE ARRIVED, RIGHT?
BASTARD... YOU MUST HAVE PLACED THEM HERE.
YOU THOUGHT THESE WERE EGGPLANTS? THE HEAT MUST BE GETTING TO YOU.

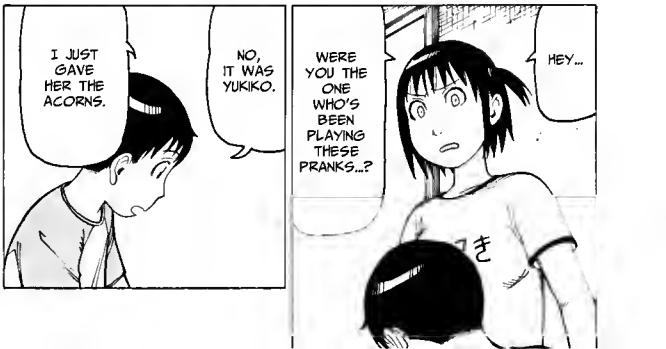

CAN'T EVEN TAKE CARE OF YOUR OWN STORE.
SNORT!
I ONLY LOOKED AWAY FOR A SECOND...
THEN WHO DID THIS?
BESIDES, I DIDN'T PUT THOSE ACORNS THERE!!
IT'S YOUR OWN DAMN FAULT!!
IT'S YOUR FAULT I ENDED UP LIKE THIS!!
...MAN, I WAS SO SURE THAT THERE WAS A CASE TO SOLVE...

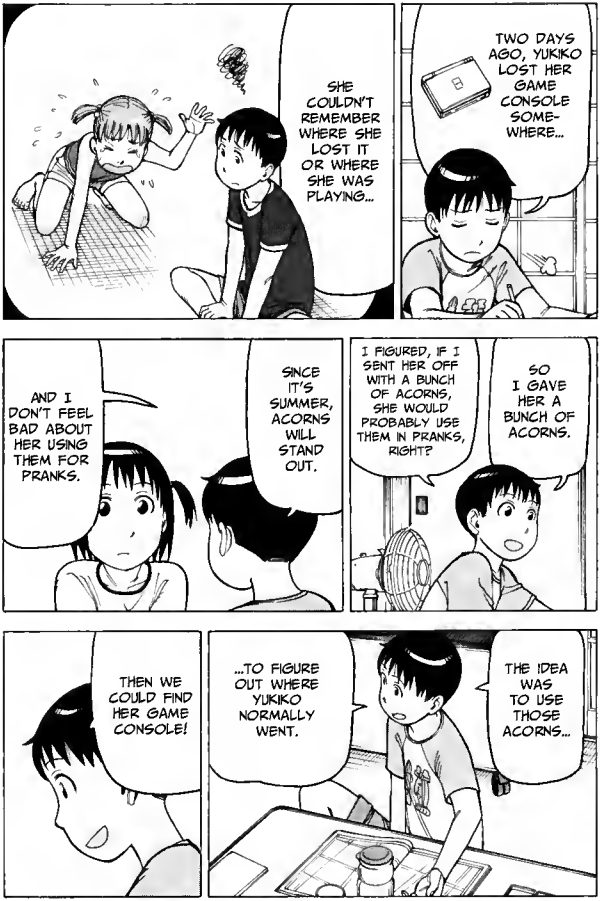
GOOD GRIEF.
WEL-COME HOME.
I'M HOME.
AH! OUCH!
!
IT'S SUMMER, YET THE TOWN IS COVERED IN ACORNS!
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
ANOTHER ACORN!!


I DIDN'T SEE THEM. I HEARD ABOUT THEM...
SINCE I'M AN ARMCHAIR DETEC-TIVE.
COVERED IN ACORNS...? YOU SAW OTHER ACORNS?! WHERE? WHERE DID YOU SEE THEM?
SIS!!

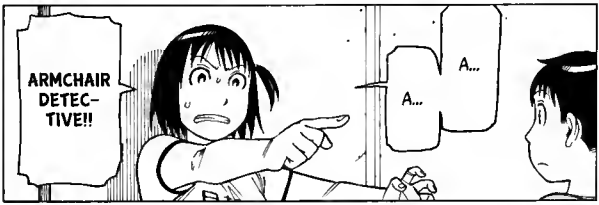
SHIRT: EARLY BIRD


AMAZING!! I DIDN'T EXPECT IT TO WORK SO WELL! HEHEH.
I SEE... LOOKING AT THE MAP, THESE LOCATIONS ARE ALL ON THE NORTH SIDE OF TOWN...
WAIT, WAIT! MAP! WHERE'S A MAP?
FROM WHAT I HEARD, THEY WERE AT THE GROCERY STORE, THE BAR YOTAROU...



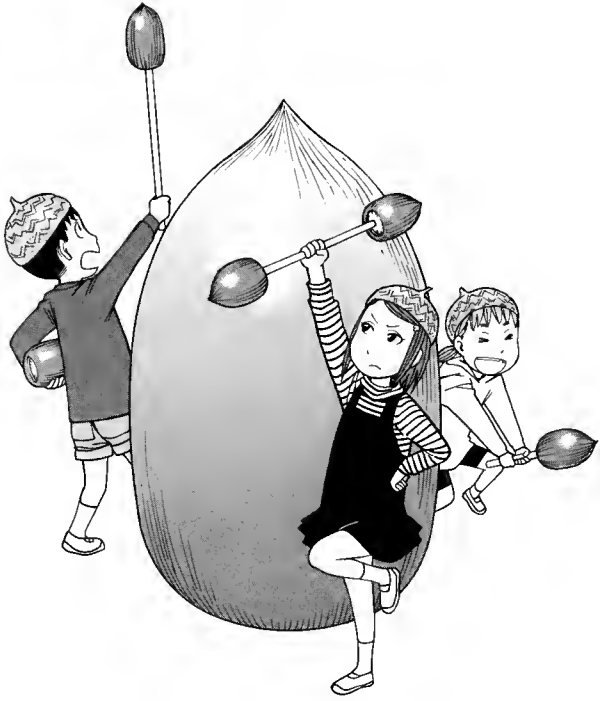

TWO DAYS AGO, YUKIKO LOST HER GAME CONSOLE SOMEWHERE...
SHE COULDN'T REMEMBER WHERE SHE LOST IT OR WHERE SHE WAS PLAYING...
SO I GAVE HER A BUNCH OF ACORNS.
I FIGURED, IF I SENT HER OFF WITH A BUNCH OF ACORNS, SHE WOULD PROBABLY USE THEM IN PRANKS, RIGHT?
SINCE IT'S SUMMER, ACORNS WILL STAND OUT.
AND I DON'T FEEL BAD ABOUT HER USING THEM FOR PRANKS.
THE IDEA WAS TO USE THOSE ACORNS...
...TO FIGURE OUT WHERE YUKIKO NORMALLY WENT.
THEN WE COULD FIND HER GAME CONSOLE!

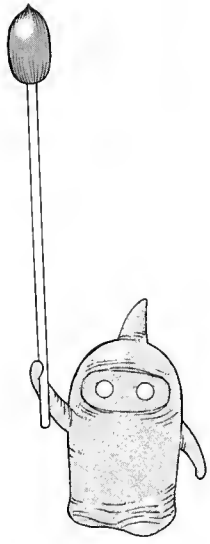
I DIDN'T EXPECT IT TO WORK SO WELL, THOUGH.
...SO, IF MY PLAN WORKED, YOU WOULD MENTION SOMETHING ABOUT ACORNS WHEN YOU CAME HOME.
...EVERY-ONE TALKS ABOUT IT AT SEASIDE...
AND WHENEVER SOME-THING HAPPENS...



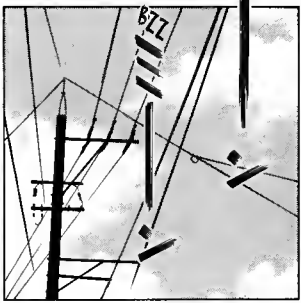
CHAPTER 62 / END

THE ACORN CULT'S ACORN FESTIVAL

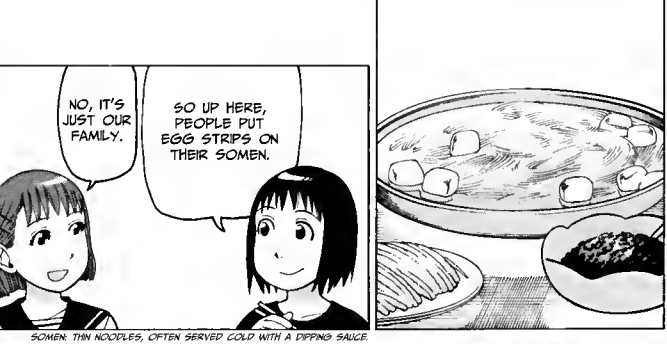




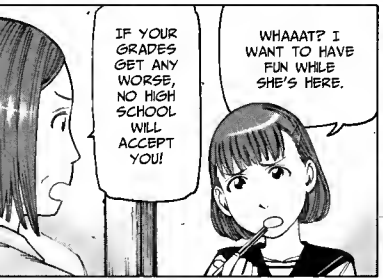
CHAPTER 63
KAPPA QUEST

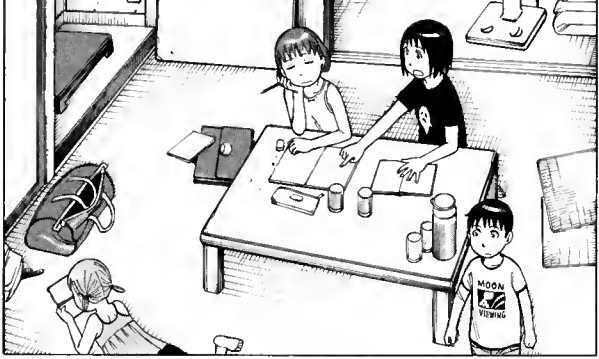


SIGN: AYATORI

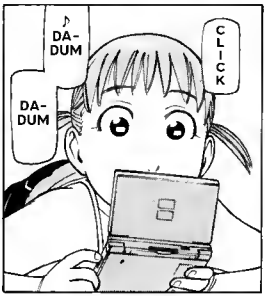


SOMEN: THIN NOODLES, OFTEN SERVED COLD WITH A DIPPING SAUCE.



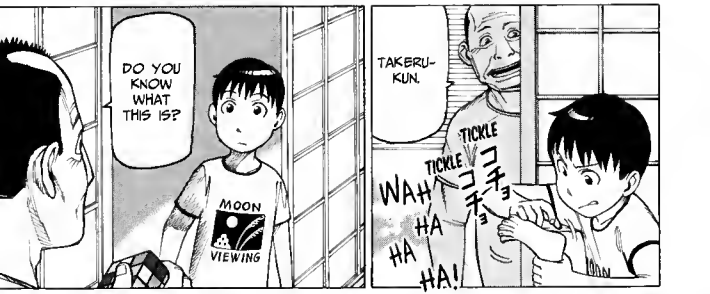

MOON
VIEWING

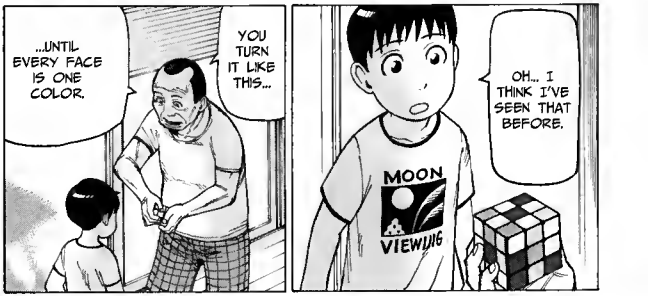
AH! SHE'S PLAYING GAMES AGAIN!
MOON
VIEWING

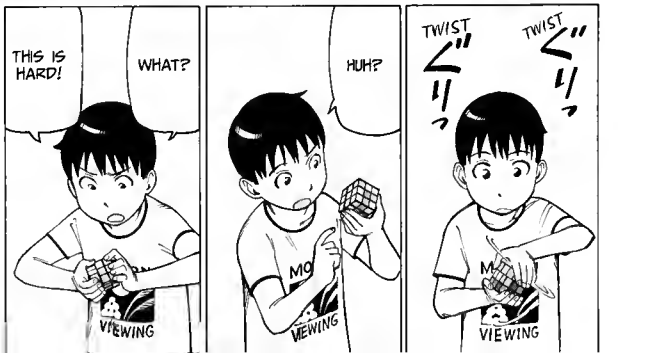

CLICK
♪ DA-DUM
DA-DUM

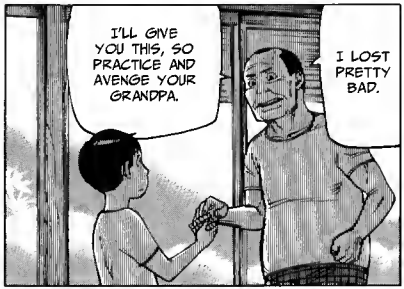
IF YOU'RE GOING TO KEEP PLAYING, PLAY LIKE THIS!
THAT'S NO EX-CUSE!!
NOOOO-OOOO-OOOO-OO...

I'M STILL IN THE CAVE!!
GIVE ME THAT! WE'RE SUPPOSED TO TAKE TURNS.

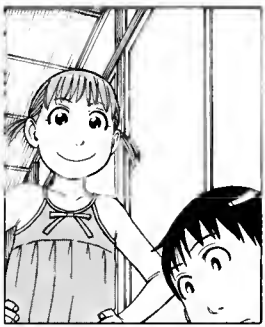

DO YOU KNOW WHAT THIS IS?
MOON VIEWING
TAKERU-KUN.
TICKLE
TICKLE
TICKLE
コチョ
コチョ
WAH HA HA HA!


...UNTIL EVERY FACE IS ONE COLOR.
YOU TURN IT LIKE THIS...
OH... I THINK I'VE SEEN THAT BEFORE.
MOON VIEWING


THIS IS HARD!
WHAT?
HUH?
TWIST
TWIST
VIEWING
VIEWING
VIEWING


I'LL GIVE YOU THIS, SO PRACTICE AND AVENGE YOUR GRANDPA.
I LOST PRETTY BAD.

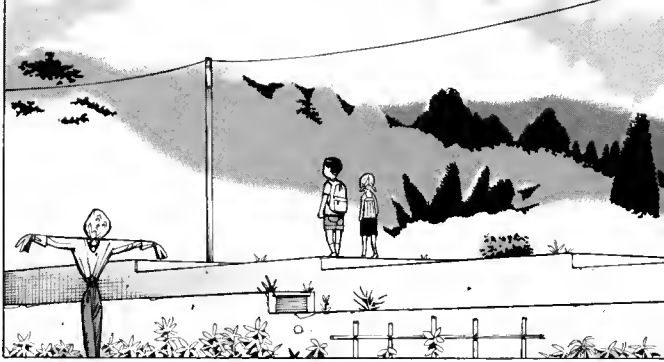
THERE'S A KAPPA IN THE MOUNTAINS OUT BACK WHO'S REALLY GOOD...
KAP-PA?!

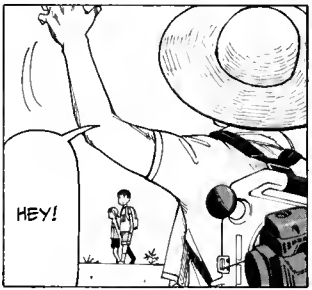


LET'S GO BEAT THE KAPPA!

BRO.
MOON
VIEWING
ENJOY

HI-YA HI!
OH... YOU MEANT TO PHYSICALLY BEAT IT.
KAPPAS DON'T EXIST.
AND EVEN IF THEY DO EXIST, WE NEED EVERY FACE TO BE ONE COLOR BEFORE WE CAN WIN.
MOON
VIEW
IT'S OKAY. WE'RE JUST GOING FOR A WALK.
DON'T WANDER TOO FAR BACK THERE!
AYE-AYE!
YUKIKO! BUG SPRAY!
WHOOSH
GOOD.

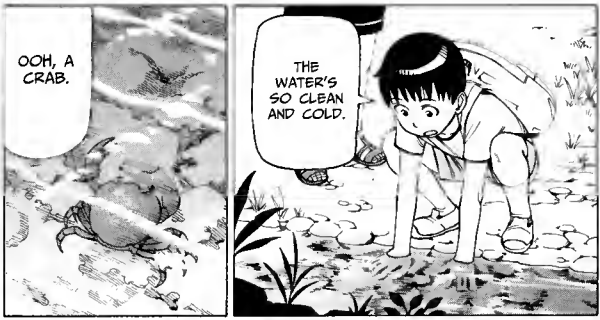


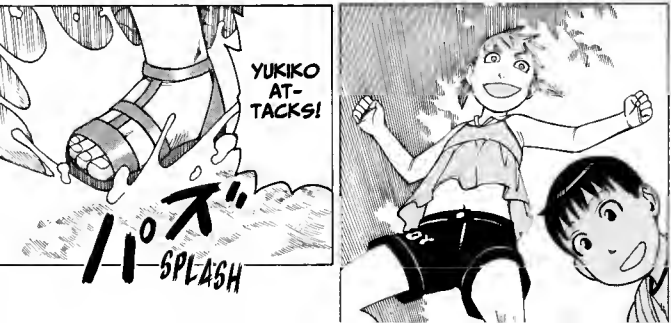

HEY!

OKAY.
IF YOU'RE HEADING INTO THE MOUNTAINS, STAY AWAY FROM THE LAKE.

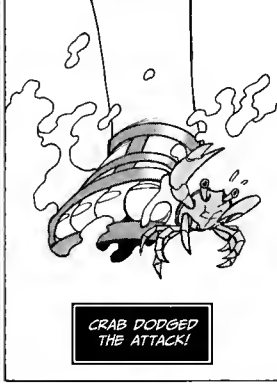
YOU'RE THE KIDS WHO ARE VISITING THE AYATORIS?
YEP!

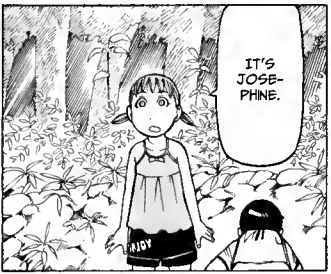
HE DOESN'T WANT US TO DROWN.
HE SAID TO STAY AWAY FROM THE LAKE! MAYBE THE KAPPA'S THERE!


OOH, A CRAB.
THE WATER'S SO CLEAN AND COLD.


YUKIKO AT-TACKS!
パズ
SPLASH

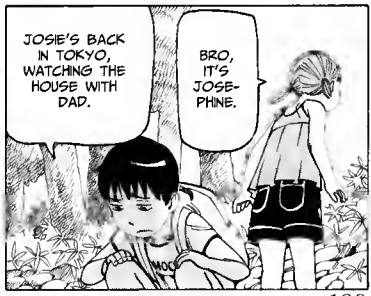
DON'T BULLY IT!
HEY, NOW!!
CRAB ESCAPED!


CRAB DODGED THE ATTACK!


IT'S JOSE-PHINE.

HUH?
MAN... WHERE DID THE CRAB GO?

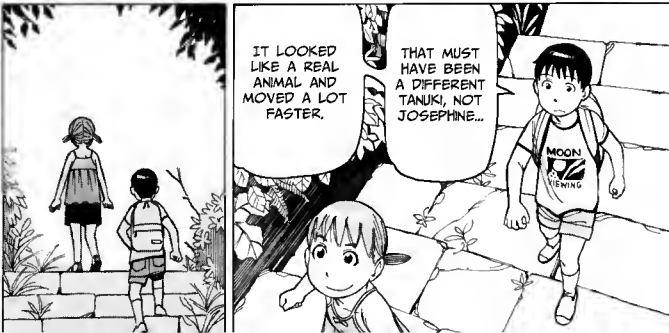
SHE CAN'T BE HERE...


JOSIE'S BACK IN TOKYO, WATCHING THE HOUSE WITH DAD.
BRO, IT'S JOSE-PHINE.

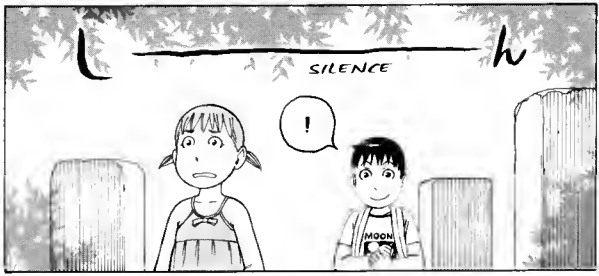
IT'S JOSE-PHINE.
HEY!
JOSIE, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE...?
COME!
SCAMPER
シュッ
SHE RAN AWAY!

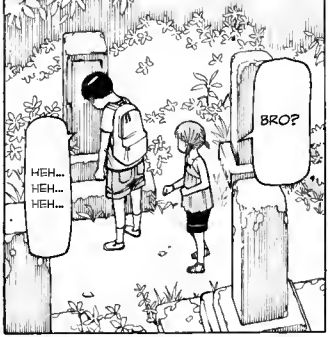
JOSIE RAN UP THE STAIRS!
YUKIKO DISCOVERED STAIRS.
WHY WOULD SHE COME SEE YOU WHEN YOU NEVER WALK HER?
SHE MUST HAVE COME TO SEE ME!
MOON VIEWING

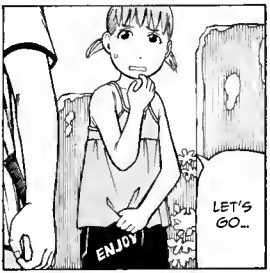
GRANDMA SAID NOT TO GO TOO FAR!!
AH! STUPID!
LET'S FOLLOW HER!

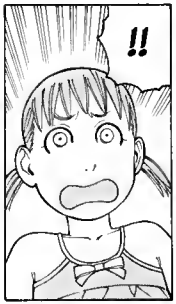

IT LOOKED LIKE A REAL ANIMAL AND MOVED A LOT FASTER.
THAT MUST HAVE BEEN A DIFFERENT TANUKI, NOT JOSEPHINE...
MOON VIEWING

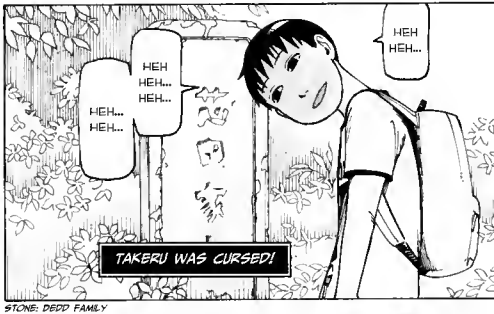
STONE: NAMU AMIDA BUTSU



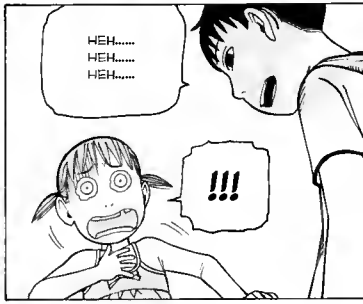








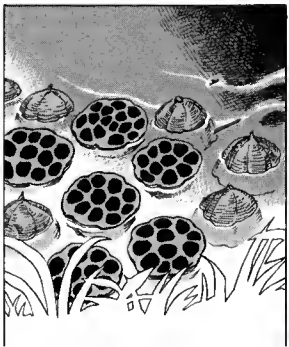
STONE: DEDD FAMILY



WHACK
BE-GONE !!
CURSE...
THAT... THAT REALLY HURT...!
OW...
THE CURSE ON TAKERU WAS LIFTED!

I NEVER KNEW I HAD THIS POWER...

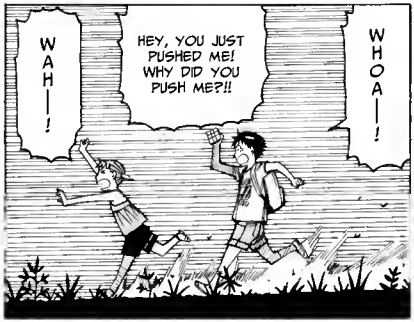
SIGN: DANGER! DON'T PLAY IN THE LAKE!



BUT WHY ARE THERE SO MANY BEEHIVES IN THE LAKE...?
DID THEY FALL FROM A TREE?
BEE-HIVES?
YEP.
MAYBE SOMEONE THREW THEM IN THE LAKE?
...BUT THERE AREN'T ANY TREES AROUND...
.....
.....
WHY WOULD SOMEONE GATHER BEEHIVES AND DUMP THEM IN THE LAKE...?

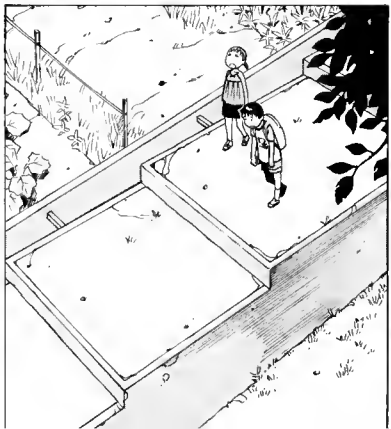
A KAPPA IN THE MOUNTAINS OUT BACK...
STAY AWAY FROM THE LAKE.
RUSTLE...
ガサ...
THAT'S THE MOST LOGICAL EXPLANATION...
THE KAPPA WANTED TO EAT HONEY...!
IF THE KAPPA ISN'T INTERESTED IN THIS...
BUT IF A KAPPA SHOWS UP, I'LL THROW THIS AT IT AND RUN.
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE... I THINK.
MOON VIEWING

...AND RUN AWAY...
IF A KAPPA SHOWS UP, I'LL PUSH BRO TOWARDS IT...
...I'LL HAVE TO DISTRACT IT WHILE YUKIKO ESCAPES.
MOON
UNITED.
MOON VIEWING
!!
ガサッ
RUSTLE


WAH—!
HEY, YOU JUST PUSHED ME! WHY DID YOU PUSH ME?!!
WHOA—!

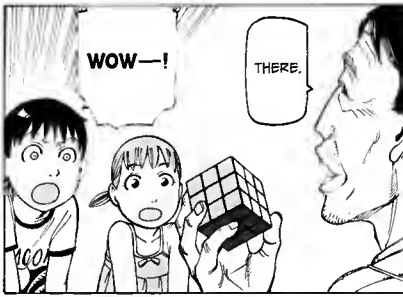
ドン
SHOVE

?

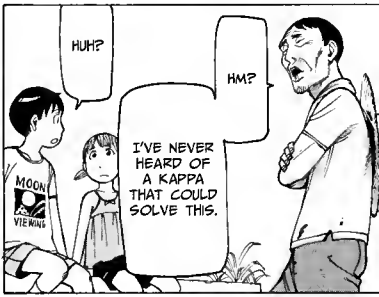


OH, YOU'RE BACK.
AH!
THAT'S A NICE TOY YOU GOT THERE!
LEMME SEE IT.
HERE I GO!
TWIST
CLICK
SPIN

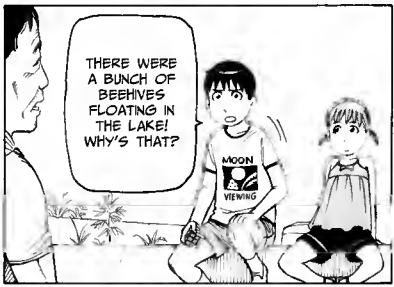
HAVE YOU EVER BEATEN THE KAPPA?
MOON VIEWING

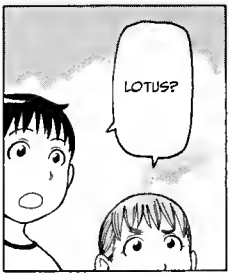

WOW—!
THERE.

AH.
THAT'S RIGHT!
MOON VIEWING

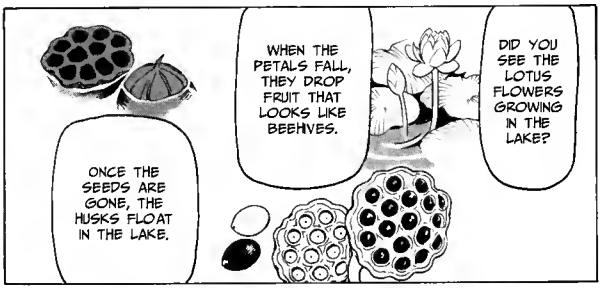

HUH?
HM?
I'VE NEVER HEARD OF A KAPPA THAT COULD SOLVE THIS.
MOON VIEWING

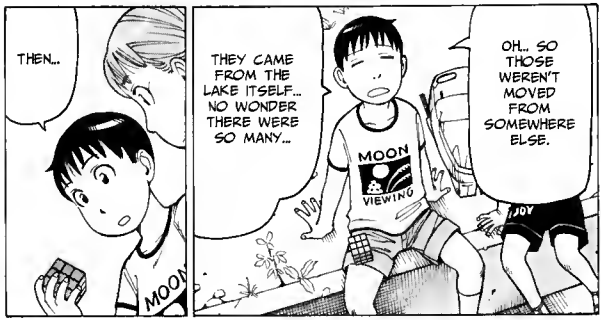
BEE-HIVES...?

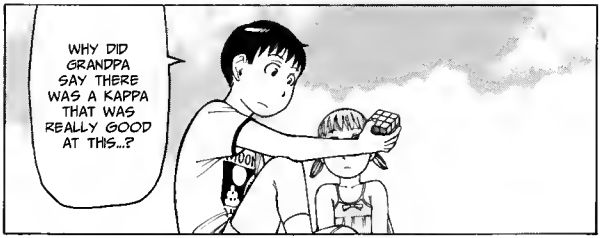

THERE WERE A BUNCH OF BEEHIVES FLOATING IN THE LAKE! WHY'S THAT?
MOON VIEWING


LOTUS?

OH! LOTUS!
THOSE WERE LOTUS FRUIT.


DID YOU SEE THE LOTUS FLOWERS GROWING IN THE LAKE?
WHEN THE PETALS FALL, THEY DROP FRUIT THAT LOOKS LIKE BEEHIVES.
ONCE THE SEEDS ARE GONE, THE HUSKS FLOAT IN THE LAKE.


THEN...
THEY CAME FROM THE LAKE ITSELF... NO WONDER THERE WERE SO MANY...
OH.. SO THOSE WEREN'T MOVED FROM SOMEWHERE ELSE.
MOON VIEWING



CHAPTER 63 / END

CHAPTER 64

THE SIGN IS B!

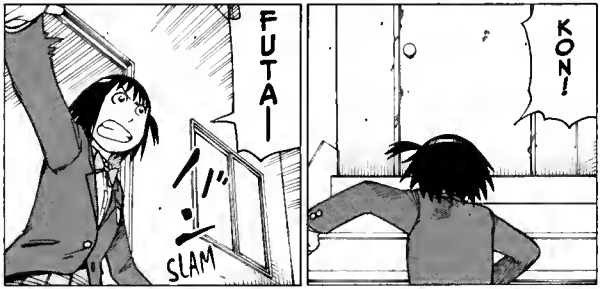
CLACK
カッ
カッ
CLACK
カ
CLACK
CLACK
カッカッ
CLACK
HM?
YAWN…

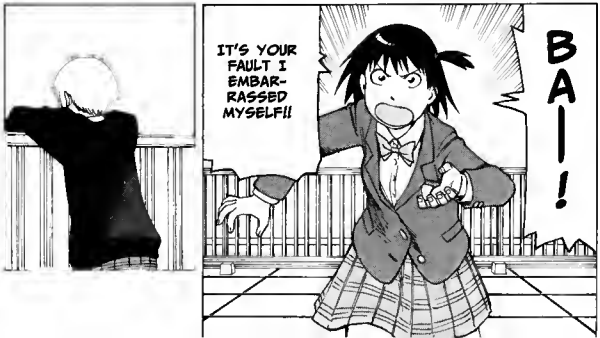
KON-SEN-PAI!
ARE THOSE HAND SIG-NALS?
NOT RIGHT NOW!
HOTORI, COME OVER HERE.

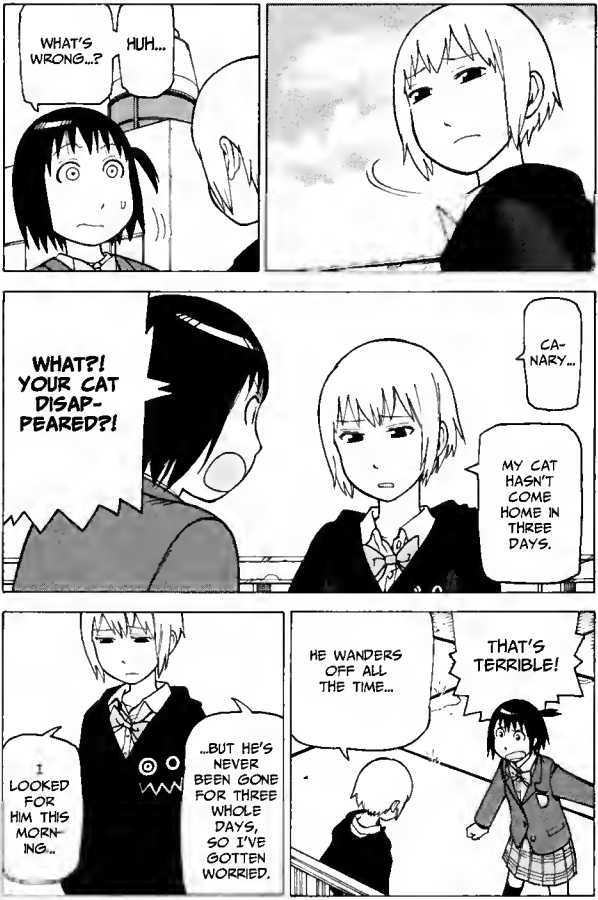
DURING LUNCH.
ON THE ROOF.
OH!!
THIS IS VERY UNUSUAL, ARASHI-YAMA!
AH... AH... EH?!
OKAY! THEN ARASHI-YAMA...
...AND SUZUKI CAN SOLVE THE PROB-LEMS.
SUZUKI, TAKE PROBLEM 1. ARASHI-YAMA, TAKE PROBLEM 2.
OKAY.
WHAT —?!

.....
.....
カッ CLACK
カッ CLACK
I ONLY REMEMBER PART OF MY SOLUTION...
MR. MORIAKI...
UM... MY STOMACH HURTS. CAN I GO TO THE NURSE'S OFFICE INSTEAD?
...VERY WELL, RETURN TO YOUR SEAT.
YOU DIDN'T WRITE ANYTHING YET.

BWAH HA HA HA HA...
2-F
SHE DID SO MUCH THINKING THAT IT UPSET HER STOMACH...

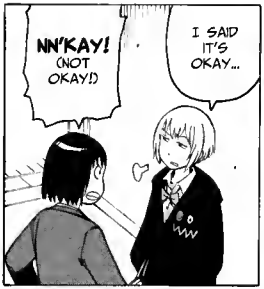

FUTA|
SLAM
KON!

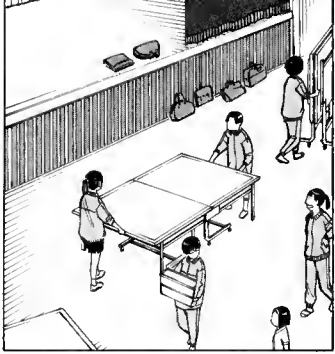

IT'S YOUR FAULT I EMBAR-RASSED MYSELF!!
BA|!

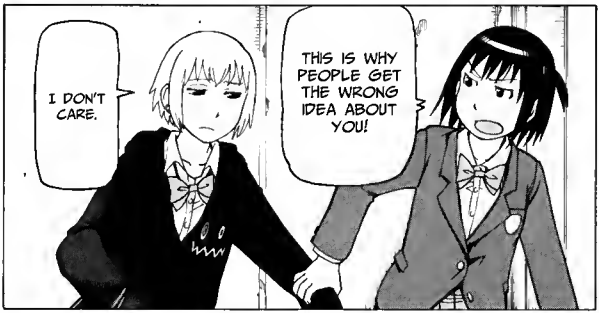

WHAT'S WRONG..?
HUH...
CA-NARY...
MY CAT HASN'T COME HOME IN THREE DAYS.
WHAT?! YOUR CAT DISAP-PEARED?!
THAT'S TERRIBLE!
HE WANDERS OFF ALL THE TIME...
...BUT HE'S NEVER BEEN GONE FOR THREE WHOLE DAYS, SO I'VE GOTTEN WORRIED.
I LOOKED FOR HIM THIS MORN-ING...

...AND IMMEDIATELY FOUND HIM.
YOU FOUND HIM?!!
BUT THE SITUATION IS MORE COMPLICATED NOW...
HE'S BEEN IMPRISONED.
IMPRISONED?!
I COULDN'T RESCUE HIM...
WELL, HE'S NOT IN ANY DANGER.
GEEZ—
YOU NEED TO DO A BETTER JOB OF EXPLAINING.
ANYWAY, I NEED YOU TO COME WITH ME AFTER SCHOOL.

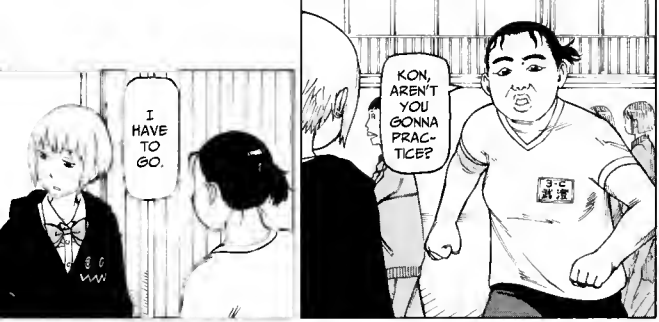
DING
DONG
キーン
コーン
DING
LET'S GET GOING, THEN!
SORRY.
SENPAI, DID YOU LET THEM KNOW THAT YOU'RE GOING TO MISS PRACTICE?
NO NEED FOR THAT.
SIGH.


I SAID IT'S OKAY...
NN'KAY! (NOT OKAY!)

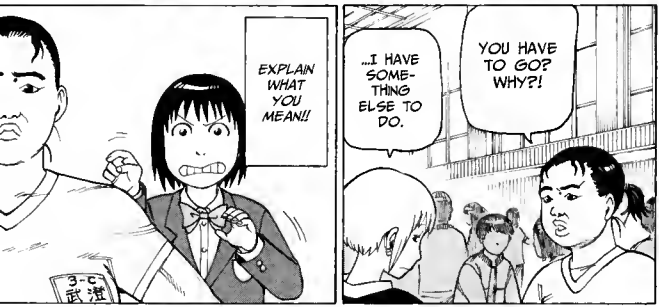


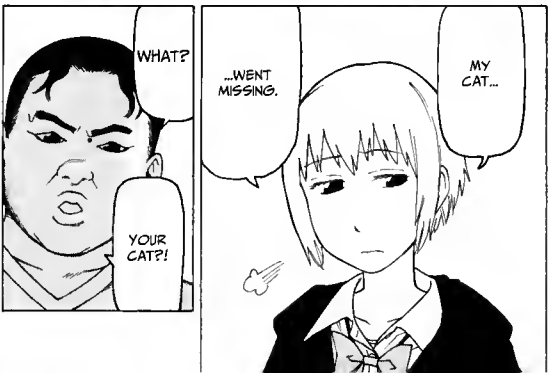

I DON'T CARE.
THIS IS WHY PEOPLE GET THE WRONG IDEA ABOUT YOU!

OH, MAN...
PING PONG CLUB CAPTAIN!

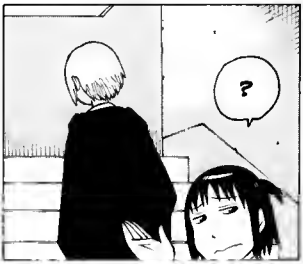


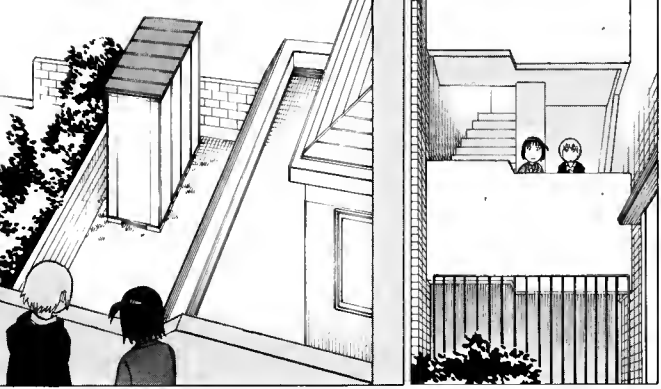
TAG: TAKESUMI

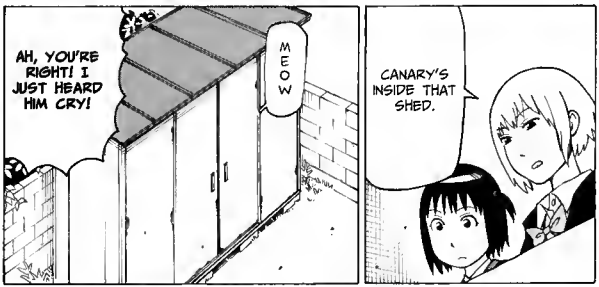


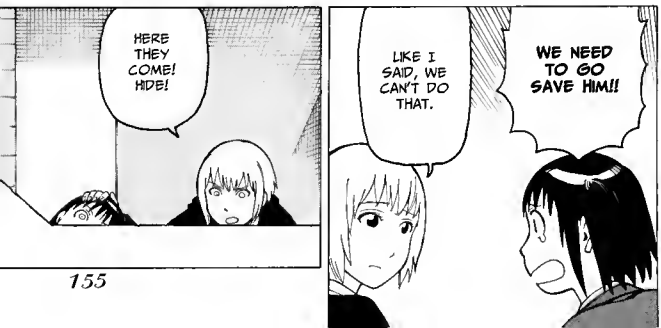


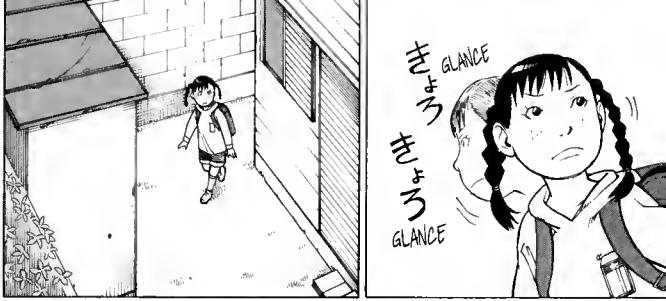
BUILDING: MAISON DU BUSON

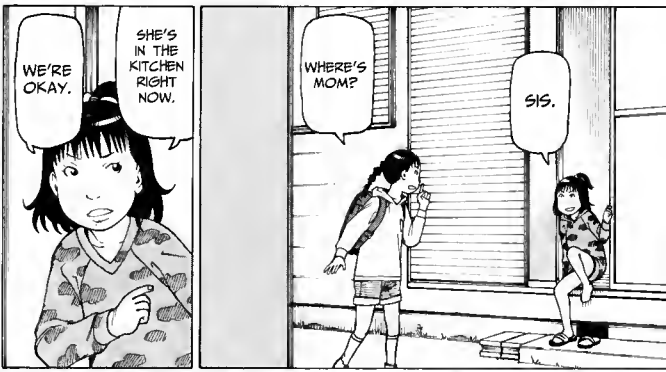




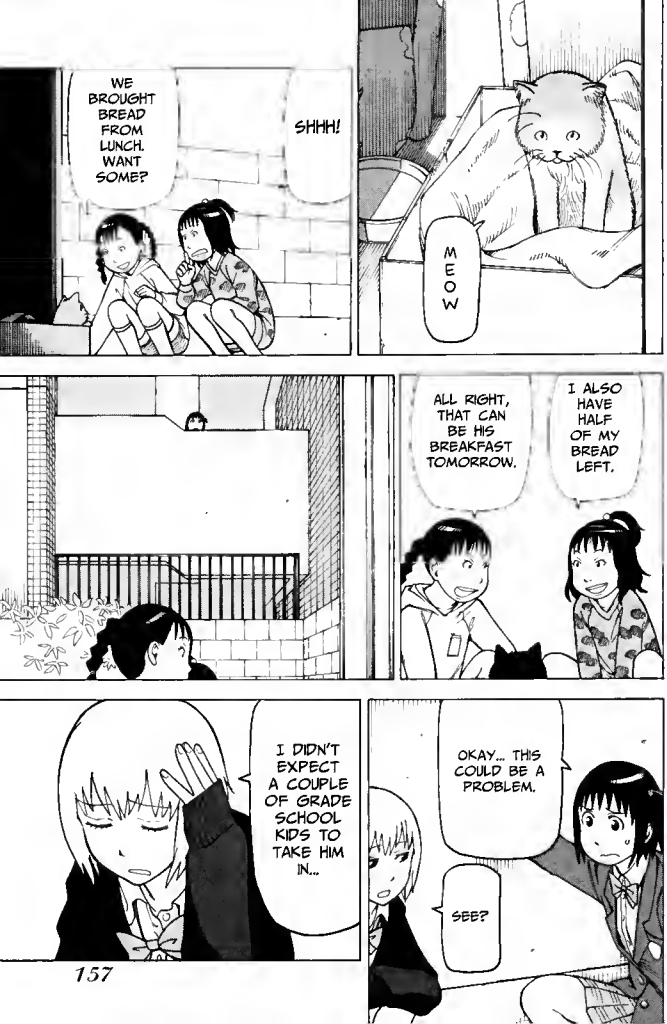

CANARY'S INSIDE THAT SHED.
MEOW
AH, YOU'RE RIGHT! I JUST HEARD HIM CRY!


WE NEED TO GO SAVE HIM!!
LIKE I SAID, WE CAN'T DO THAT.
HERE THEY COME! HIDE!


きょろ
GLANCE
きょろ
GLANCE

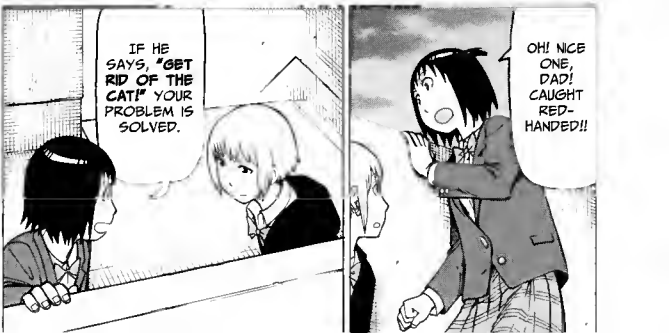

SIS.
WHERE'S MOM?
SHE'S IN THE KITCHEN RIGHT NOW.
WE'RE OKAY.

ガ゛ガ゛..ガ゛
CLANK
CLANK
CLANK


WE BROUGHT BREAD FROM LUNCH. WANT SOME?
SHHH!
MEOW
ALL RIGHT, THAT CAN BE HIS BREAKFAST TOMORROW.
I ALSO HAVE HALF OF MY BREAD LEFT.
I DIDN'T EXPECT A COUPLE OF GRADE SCHOOL KIDS TO TAKE HIM IN...
OKAY... THIS COULD BE A PROBLEM.
SEE?

DAD!!
I'M HOME.
CLACK

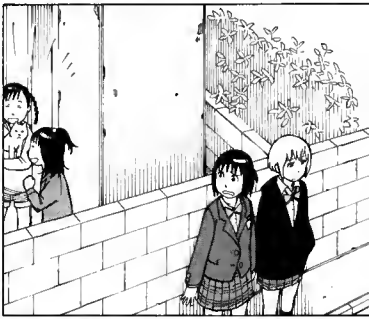
...HIDING A CAT THERE?!
ARE YOU...
GIRL
W-WEL—
WEL-COME HOME.

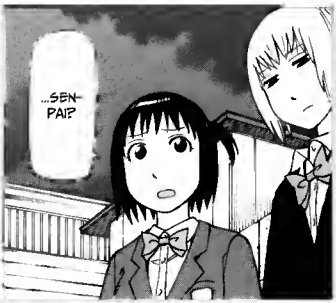

IF HE SAYS, "GET RID OF THE CAT!" YOUR PROBLEM IS SOLVED.
OH! NICE ONE, DAD! CAUGHT RED-HANDED!!

!!
I TALKED TO YOUR MOTHER...
...AND WE DECIDED THAT YOU CAN KEEP IT.
THE SITUATION'S GOTTEN A LOT WORSE!
!!
BUT...
LET'S GET DOWN THERE
JUST COME!

AND REMEMBER TO THANK YOUR MOTHER.
TAKE GOOD CARE OF IT.
THANKS, DAD!

HM—
IF WE INTERRUPT NOW, WE'LL LOOK LIKE BAD GUYS...

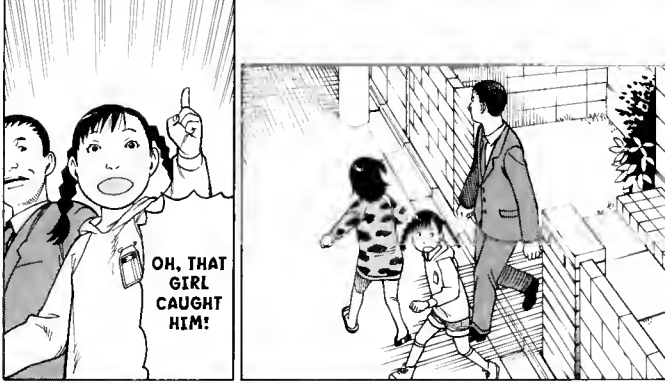


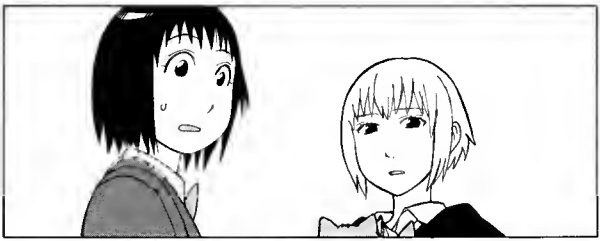

...SEN-PAI?

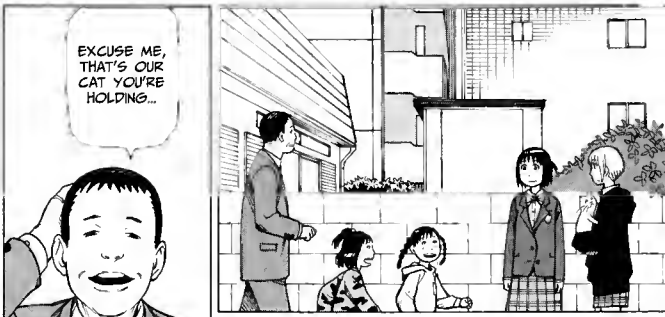
DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT LETTING THEM HAVE CANARY?!
THERE ARE ONLY TWO THINGS I WANT FOR CANARY.
HAPPI-NESS, AND...
...GOOD HEALTH AND A LONG LIFE.
THOSE ARE THREE THINGS!
BESIDES, A LONG LIFE WOULD IMPLY GOOD HEALTH!
AND ONE OF THE CONDITIONS FOR HAPPINESS WOULD BE **LIVING WITH YOU.**
YOU CAN'T SAY THAT FOR SURE UNTIL YOU'VE ASKED CANARY.

AH! KITTY!
ピョイ
HOP
ピク
TWITCH
CANARY!

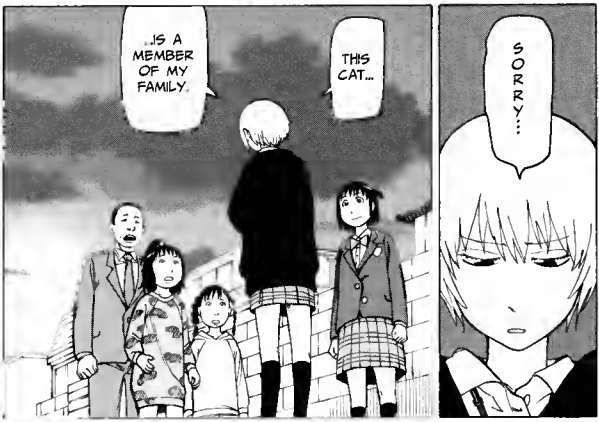
O-OKAY!
MAID'S...
HOTORI! USE YOUR MAID'S CAGE TO CATCH IT!
WHOA!
HOP
ピョン
ZIP!
スカ!
CAN'T DO IT!!
HE MUST HAVE HEARD YOUR VOICE. CATS ARE SUPPOSED TO HAVE GOOD HEARING...


OH, THAT GIRL CAUGHT HIM!




EXCUSE ME, THAT'S OUR CAT YOU'RE HOLDING...

キラ SPARKLE
SPARKLE キラ
SPARKLE キラ
MEOW!

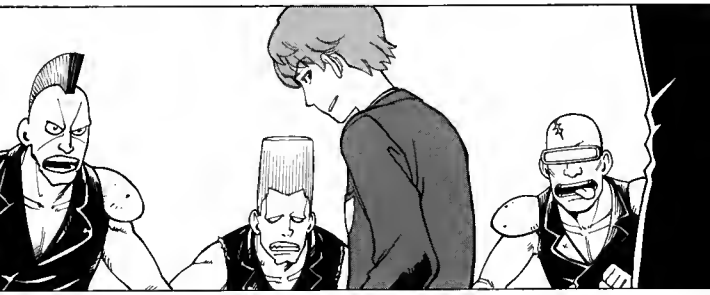


CHAPTER 64 / END

LINES THAT SANADA-KUN WOULD LOVE TO SAY:

"IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN SEEING WHAT HELL LOOKS LIKE...

...I CAN SEND YOU ON YOUR WAY."

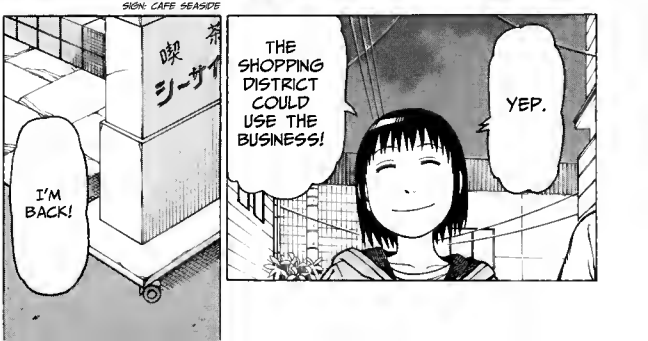


TITLE: **TROUBLE**

CHAPTER 65
FAREWELL, NOODLES
CHARIBAN

RAMEN PARADE
大名行列
PARADE
TWO BBQ PORKS.
WHAAAT?
WE'RE OUT OF BBQ PORK.. SORRY.
OOPS!
YOU CAN'T REPLACE BBQ PORK WITH VEGETABLES AND FISH PASTE.
INSTEAD, I'LL GIVE YOU EXTRA GREEN ONIONS AND FISH CAKES.

SIGN: CAFE SEASIDE



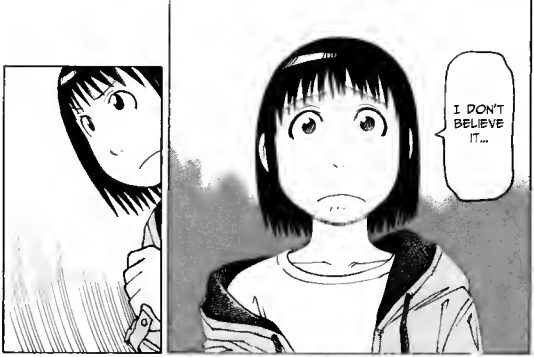
OH...
WEL-
COME
BACK.
Un palmo

WE GOT
SOME
CUSTOMERS
WHILE I
WAS OUT.
OH!
WE
SHOULD
BE BUSY
TONIGHT,
THEN!

YOU MAKE
IT SOUND
LIKE I NEVER
WORRY...
...ABOUT
ANYTHING.
HOTORI-
CHAN'S
ALWAYS
HAPPY.
HEH...

PERFECT TIMING. I JUST HAD A FISH CAKE RAMEN THERE.
YOU KNOW RAMEN PARADE?
THERE WAS A MEETING YESTERDAY.
...THAT'S HE'S CLOSING HIS RESTAU-RANT.
THE OWNER SAID...
NOBODY CARES ABOUT THAT.
FISH CAKE RAMEN? NEVER HEARD OF IT. IS THAT A SECRET ITEM?
WHY ?!
NO WAY!
...HUH?!

I STARTED WITH A RAMEN STALL
AFTER OPENING UP THE RESTAURANT, I STILL RAN THE STALL AT NIGHT...
WHEN THE PRICE OF FLOUR AND VEGETABLES WENT UP, I KEPT MY PRICES THE SAME.
AND WITH CHAIN STORES AND YOUNG PEOPLE MOVING IN...
...I DON'T HAVE THE SALES OR STRENGTH TO KEEP GOING.
SO I'LL CLOSE UP SHOP...
HA HA HA HA...
...AND ENJOY LIVING WITH MY WIFE ON THE SAVINGS WE HAVE.
HA HA HA HA HA


I DON'T BELIEVE IT...

YEAH! SHOPPING DISTRICT RESIDENTS SHOULD ALWAYS EAT OUT AT SHOPPING DISTRICT RESTAURANTS!

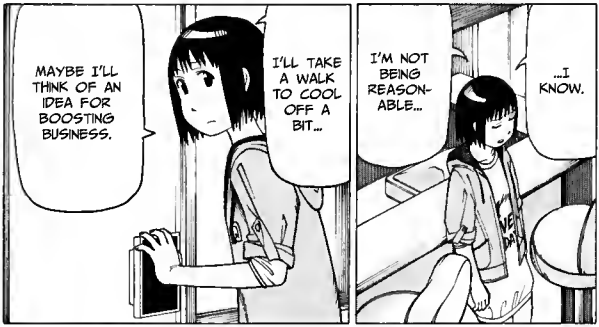
LET'S GO THERE EVERY DAY!!

IF WE TRANSFORM THE SHOPPING DISTRICT INTO A COMPLETE CYCLE...

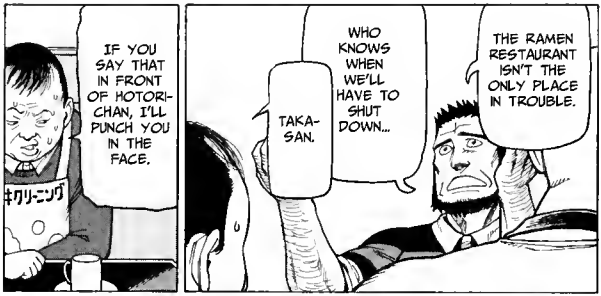
HOTORI-CHAN...

BUY VEGETABLES AT KIKU GROCERIES.
TAKE THEM TO ARAI DRY CLEANING.
WHEN YOUR CLOTHES ARE DIRTY...

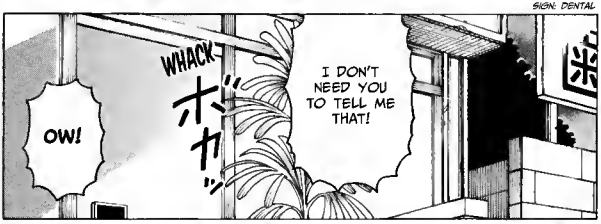
HOTORI!
PLUS, YOU'LL HAVE A BUSINESS TO PASS ON...
...EVERY-ONE CAN STAY OPEN.


MAYBE I'LL THINK OF AN IDEA FOR BOOSTING BUSINESS.
I'LL TAKE A WALK TO COOL OFF A BIT...
I'M NOT BEING REASON-ABLE...
...I KNOW.

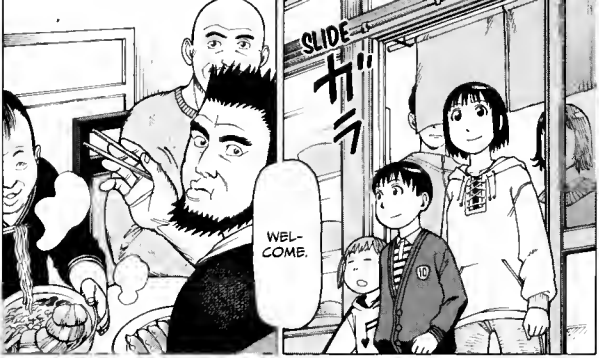
...BUT IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE.
I CAN UNDERSTAND HOW HOTORI-CHAN FEELS...
カラン
RATTLE RATTLE...
カラン...


THE RAMEN RESTAURANT ISN'T THE ONLY PLACE IN TROUBLE.
WHO KNOWS WHEN WE'LL HAVE TO SHUT DOWN...
TAKA-SAN.
IF YOU SAY THAT IN FRONT OF HOTORI-CHAN, I'LL PUNCH YOU IN THE FACE.
クリーニング

SIGN: DENTAL

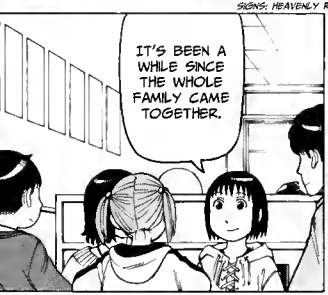


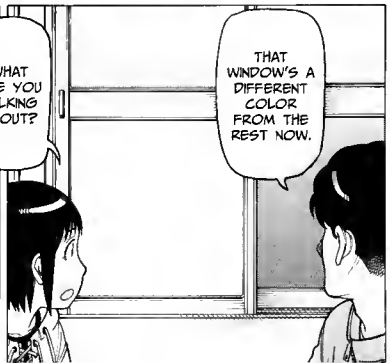
SIGN: RAMEN PARADE

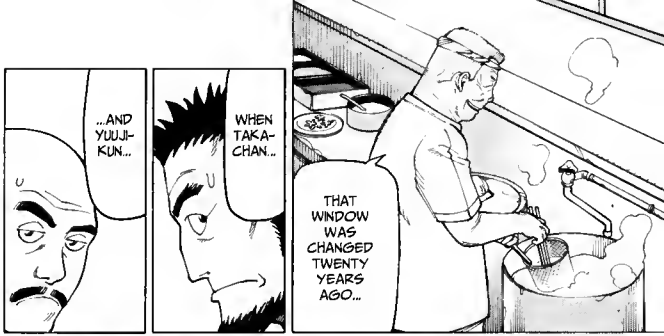


SHIRT: RAMEN PARADE

SIGNS: HEAVENLY RAMEN / YAKISOBA / EGGPLANT RAMEN / (_) RAMEN / MISO RAMEN






...AND YUUJI-KUN...
WHEN TAKA-CHAN...
THAT WINDOW WAS CHANGED TWENTY YEARS AGO...

I HEAR YOU GAVE OUR [BOY A] A ROUGH TIME!!
YOU GUYS ARE TAKA AND YUUJI FROM SHIKISHIMA, RIGHT?!!

...WERE STILL A COUPLE OF PUNK KIDS.

IT WASN'T YOUR RESTAU-RANT.
MUTTER

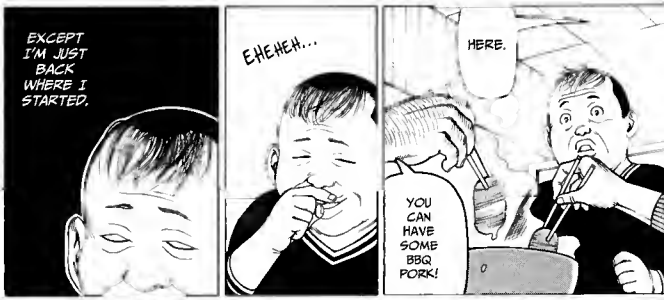
YOU'RE GONNA PAY FOR WRECKING OUR RESTAU-RANT!
THIS PLACE IS OURS!!

I TOLD THEM THAT IT WAS OKAY...
NO BBQ PORK FOR YOU.

NOW I REMEMBER!!
...BUT THEY PAID FOR THE WINDOW.

NO, NO! JUST LOOK AT THE BUMP ON MY HEAD!
KOBUHEI WAS ALWAYS A NICE GUY...
LOOK THERE!! DOESN'T THIS SEEM ODD?! I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG!

IT'S ALL COMING BACK.
THIS GUY USED TO BE A REAL CHEAP-SKATE.
YOU NEED TO LEARN TO LET GO OF THE PAST!
AND SINCE THE TOTAL COULDN'T BE SPLIT THREE WAYS EVENLY, I HAD TO PAY AN EXTRA YEN!


EXCEPT I'M JUST BACK WHERE I STARTED.
EHEHEH...
HERE.
YOU CAN HAVE SOME BBQ PORK!

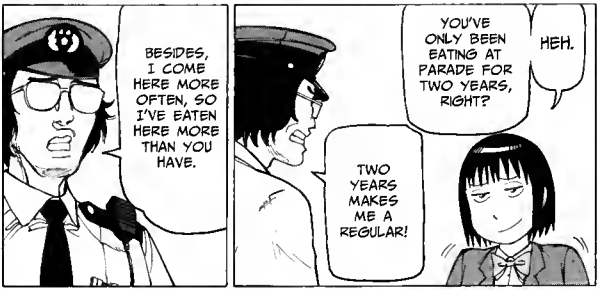
IT SHOULD BE OBVIOUS, BUT THEY'VE ALL BEEN IN THIS SHOPPING DISTRICT A LOT LONGER THAN I HAVE.

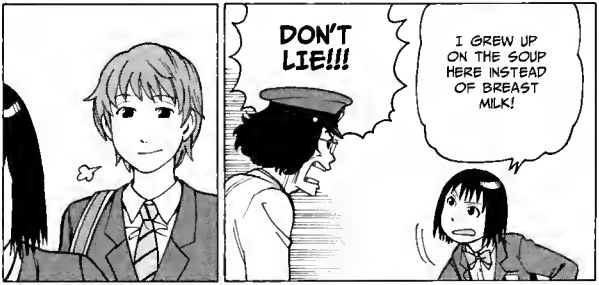
I HOPE IT'S STILL HERE AFTER I GROW UP...
...THIS IS A GOOD RESTAURANT.
.....
.....
.....
RUB
グレっ
SPLAT
ポチャ
ラーメン大名行列
ラーメン大名行列

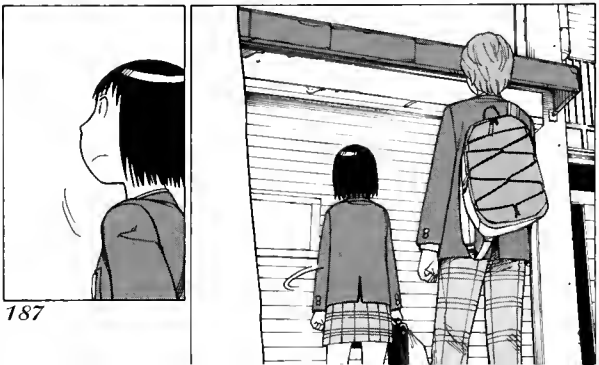
SORRY! YOURS WILL TAKE A LITTLE LONGER, HOTORI-CHAN.
SNOT DRIPPED INTO THE BBQ PORK... I-I'LL HAVE TO START OVER...
OOPS!!
SPLAT?
I'M OUT OF BBQ PORK...
HOTORI-CHAN...
AH!
AGAIN?!
WHAAAAT?

SIGN: FOR RENT. PLEASE CONTACT ACALA REALTORS

HE FINALLY CLOSED THE RESTAU-RANT...
TA-TSUN REALLY LIKED THE HEAVENLY RAMEN HERE.
YEAH, YEAH!
I'M GUESSING TA-TSUN NEVER TRIED ANYTHING ELSE!
チリン チリン
BRING, BRING
HELLO.
YO.
I HAD A HABIT OF...
...STOPPING BY HIS STALL AFTER MY NIGHT PATROL.
IT'S ABOUT TO GET COLDER, TOO.
I'LL MISS HIM...


BESIDES, I COME HERE MORE OFTEN, SO I'VE EATEN HERE MORE THAN YOU HAVE.
TWO YEARS MAKES ME A REGULAR!
YOU'VE ONLY BEEN EATING AT PARADE FOR TWO YEARS, RIGHT?
HEH.


DON'T LIE!!!
I GREW UP ON THE SOUP HERE INSTEAD OF BREAST MILK!



ガララッ
SLIDE
THE RAMEN RESTAURANT WILL LIVE ON INSIDE US.
DON'T MAKE IT SOUND...
...LIKE I'M DEAD!!
THE RAMEN RESTAURANT WILL MOVE TO THE SECOND FLOOR.
I STILL HAVE PLENTY TO LOOK FORWARD TO!
ラーメン大名行

CHAPTER 65 / END

AFTERWORD

A PROBLEM THAT HOTORI CAN'T SOLVE...! IN MOST OF THE PREVIOUS CHAPTERS, HOTORI HAS BEEN ABLE TO FIND A SOLUTION THROUGH HER PERSONALITY OR PEOPLE SKILLS, BUT THERE ARE SITUATIONS WHERE SHE HAS NO ANSWER. IN VOLUME 8, I TRIED TO COVER SOME OF THOSE SITUATIONS.

THESE INCLUDED TA-TSUN'S TEARS, OTHER PEOPLE'S ROMANTIC AFFAIRS, ARMCHAIR DETECTIVE WORK, AND OTHER PERSONAL ISSUES. HOWEVER, I WAS UNABLE TO COVER EVERYTHING I WANTED.

SPEAKING OF PROBLEMS WITH NO SOLUTION, I HAD PLANNED ON WRITING THE KAPPA STORY LAST SUMMER, BUT I WAS FORCED TO DELAY IT, SO IT WASN'T PUBLISHED UNTIL FALL IN THE REAL WORLD. (THE SEASON IN EACH CHAPTER USUALLY MATCHES THE SEASON WHEN IT WAS FIRST SERIALIZED.)

THERE'S ONE OTHER RECENT PROBLEM I'VE BEEN HAVING, WITH MATERIALS I BOUGHT BUT CAN'T FIGURE OUT HOW TO USE. SUCH AS A PHOTO COLLECTION OF MEDIEVAL EUROPEAN ARMOR...

ASSISTANT	NAGAHORI KAORU
HELPER	ARI
SPECIAL THANKS	ARAKI YUUKI